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50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

Inside

SUPER BOWL XLVII NFL's top offense and defense set to meet in New York for title





In one Colorado town, mayor is signing off on drone-hunting licenses

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MIDEAST

Coalition soldier killed when insurgents attack base in Afghanistan

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FACES

Fallon and Meyers reveal first guests as Leno reveals his last

Page 17



Civilians inspect the site of a car bomb attack at an outdoor market in Baghdad's al-Jadidah district on Monday. A series of bombings in central Iraq killed dozens of people on Monday, as a government official claimed that al-Qaida-linked fighters have dug in to a city they seized last month and possess enough heavy weapons to storm into the capital.

Battling the fallout

Former NATO commander warns of wider war in Middle East, says radicals in Syria and Iraq also pose a threat to Europe

By Slobodan Lekic Stars and Stripes

ATO's former top military commander has warned that the widening sectarian conflict in Syria and Iraq could engulf a broader region in the Middle East, just as the religious wars in Europe did in the 16th and 17th centuries. James Stavridis, who served as the al-

liance's supreme commander until last year, said that although Syria and Iraq are the flashpoints of the conflict at the moment, Lebanon and other nearby naI worry deeply about the potential for this **Sunni-Shia conflict** to widen into a truly regional war. 7

> James Stavridis NATO's former top military commander

tions could easily be sucked into a war. He said the conflicts present a direct security threat to Europe as well.

"I worry deeply about the potential for this Sunni-Shia conflict to widen into a truly regional war," Stavridis said.

Analysts and diplomats in the region have warned that the civil war in Syria and the escalating intercommunal violence in neighboring Iraq are becoming a regional conflagration spanning the 363-mile desert border between the two nations. Both conflicts pit Shiiteled government forces against mainly Sunni Muslim insurgent groups.

SEE FALLOUT ON PAGE 10

Navy seeks solutions ashore for Africa's piracy woes

By Steven Beardsley Stars and Strines

NAPLES, Italy - When pirates hijacked an American supply ship and kidnapped two of its crewmembers off the coast of Nigeria in October, the news had a familiar ring to it. 'Captain Phillips," a movie based on the 2009 hijacking of the Maersk Alabama, had just hit theaters, a reminder of another time when pirates posed an outsize threat off the coast of Africa.

It's tempting to see a new So-malia in the Gulf of Guinea, a troubled body of water on the Atlantic side of Africa. A report earlier this month by the International Maritime Bureau counted 48 pirate incidents in the area last year; a total of 36

people were kidnapped for ransom, and one person was killed.

Meanwhile, pirate attacks off Somalia continued their steep decline, dropping to 15 incidents last year after hitting a peak of 237 attacks in 2011. a fall attributed largely to an international naval policing effort and new protocols for yessels transiting the area.

Yet the U.S. Navy has little

interest in a similar policing effort in West Africa, its top officer told Stars and Stripes in a November interview. Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert said solutions in the region must be shore-based — in other words, with local governments in the lead rather than international navies.

SEE PIRACY ON PAGE 3

$\underset{\text{of the day}}{\mathbf{QUOTE}}$

"If you can also deliver a pizza, you can deliver a bomb, anywhere - at a crowded football stadium. at the Boston Marathon.'

- U.S. Army veteran Phil Steel, who has proposed an ordinance to legalize drone hunting inside the city limits of Deer Trail, Colo., on the coming integration of drones into civilian airspace

See story on Page 6

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COMING

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follow gangs use of social

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MIDEAST



Afghan National Army soldiers investigate the site of a deadly assault by suicide bombers and gunmen against a NATO base in Zhari, west of Kandahar, Afghanistan, on Monday.

Servicemember killed in attack on **Afghanistan base**

By HEATH DRUZIN Stars and Stripes

KABUL - A coalition servicemember was killed Monday when insurgents dressed in military uniforms launched a complex attack on a military base in southern Afghanistan, employing a car bomb and multiple attackers with suicide vests. Afghan and coalition officials said

The attack started around 11 a.m., when a suicide bomber detonated an explosives-laden car at the gate of a base in the Taliban stronghold of Zharay district, in Kandahar province, Kandahar provincial government spokes-man Javed Faisal said.

Faisal said eight attackers strapped with suicide vests then engaged in a brief gunbattle with troops guarding the base, leaving all the attackers dead

A spokeswoman for the International Security Assistance Force confirmed the details of the attack and the death of the servicemember and said the attack caused "moderate damage" to the perimeter of the base.

Faisal said no civilians were harmed in the attack, in which he said the attackers were wearing coalition military uniforms. ISAF would not confirm that.

The Taliban quickly claimed responsibility and their spokes-man said the group had inflicted

MASSOUR HOSSAINI/AF Members of civil society organizations march during an antiterrorism demonstration Sunday in Kabul. Hundreds of Afghans gathered to protest the Taliban attack on a restaurant Friday that

heavy casualties, though the Taliban routinely exaggerate the effect of their attacks.

killed 21 people .

Violence in Afghanistan normally ebbs in the winter, when many insurgents take refuge in Pakistan before the traditional summer fighting season.

Monday's base assault comes three days after a brutal massacre at a Kabul restaurant popular with foreigners. The Taliban also claimed responsibility for that attack, in which 21 diners and restaurant staff were killed by

The restaurant attack, which targeted a Lebanese bistro in a heavily guarded neighborhood of embassies and aid organizations, has sent a ripple of fear through the international community in Kabul and raised concerns of more such attacks in the run-up to the country's presidential election in April.

Zubair Babakarkhail contributed to this report. druzin.heath@stripes.com

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MILITARY

Piracy: Expert says strengthening governance key to a lasting solution

FROM FRONT PAGE

"You need a presence of governance that has deterred the piracy up till now in the Gulf of Guinea," Greenert said during a visit to Bahrain.

His comments parallel what data and experts say about the region, where attacks resemble those in the Horn of Africa but are complicated by the presence of weak local governments and a lack of incentive for outside countries to intervene.

A different pirate

Maritime crime has long been a problem in the gulf waters stretching from Nory Coast to Gabon and, in particular, Nigeria, whose oil exports drive much of the region's traffic, said Dirk Steffen, maritime security director at Risk Intelligence, a consulting firm for the shipping industry. Incidents ranged from thefts of opportunity on berthed ships to armed robberies of fishing trawlers and other small craft.

A more sophisticated kind of attack emerged in 2010, when violent, heavily armed gunmen in speedboats began intercepting tankers and other cargo ships transiting the gulf.

"It was just, let's say, a qualitative change," Steffen said.

The upsurge in piracy may be connected to a specifically Nigerian problem: the theft of large quantities of crude oil from pipelines in the Niger Delta. Oil-theft networks siphon an average of 100,000 barrels of oil per day from the country's poorly guarded infrastructure on land, according to a study by British think tank Chatham House.

Pirate operations in the Gulf of Guinea tend to be crudely run in comparison with the sophisticated oil-theft networks, yet connections between the two groups exist. the study said.

Steffen links the rise of tanker piracy to developments in the Niger Delta, the oil-rich but economically impoverished tip of southern Nigeria. Militants there fought for years for political power and a share of the delta's wealth before many laid down their weapons in 2009 as part of a government amnesty, a shift that actually caused a decline in pirate attacks.

When some former militants were given jobs protecting the local oil infrastructure they once targeted, the oil-theft networks began to look for opportunities elsewhere, he said. Tanker ships had little protection.

The atfacks suggest a knowledge of the ships and their contents, as well as their intended ports and routes, other experts note, indicating a level of collusion with port authorities. Former rebels may also be among the pirates, some suggest.

"It seems to be the case that these are basically paramiltate groups," said Cristina Barrios, a senior analyst with the European Union Institute of Strategic Studies. "And we don't know all the connections that well, because we don't have all the intelligence from Nigeria, and we think Nigeria may not even have it."

As the success rate of tanker hijackings has fallen somewhat go to stripes.com/go/piracy



in recent years — a change some attribute to joint Nigeria-Benin maritime patrols initiated in 2012 — kidnapping for ransom has surged. The Americans taken hostage from the supply ship C-Retriever in October were released weeks later after the payment of an unspecified ransom, according to news reports.

As media began covering pirate attacks in the gulf, many reports drew parallels to the Horn of Africa. Where, some wondered, was the U.S. Navy?

A different response

Retired Navy Rear Adm. Terence McKnight, the former commander of the international task force that patrolled the Horn of Africa beginning in 2009, said much of the solution in West Africa lies in policing the waters.

"The problem we have down there is there are no navies in the Gulf of Guinea," he said. "I think if you have a show of presence ...

they would take warning."
In Somalia, a near absence of government gave international militaries a free hand in targeting pirates. With the support of Somalia's Western-backed transitional government, a 2008 U.N. resolution opened the country's territorial waters and its shore to the pursuit of pirates.

Attacks in the Gulf of Guinea, by comparison, occur near the territorial waters of multiple countries. Most attacks are relatively close to that boundary — 12 nautical miles from a coastline — whereas attacks off the Horn of Africa extended hundreds of nautical miles from the shore.

nautical miles from the shore.

Although the countries of the
Gulf of Guinea are more developed than Somalia, few can monitor their own waters with radar,
much less police them. Sailors
are often untrained in anti-piracy
measures and either lack protocols for sharing information with
neighboring countries or are unwilling to do so.

Weak judiciaries and police forces pose additional problems. In Nigeria, where most of the attacks originate, corrupt military and government officials are tied to the very oil theft, piracy and black market sales they are tasked with stopping.

Yet there is arguably less at stake for the international community in the Gulf of Guinea than there was in the Gulf of Aden, a major international waterway linking Europe and East Asia via the Mediterranean Sea to the Indian Ocean. The IMB counted III attacks attributed to Somali pirates in 2008, the year of the U.N. resolution.

Nigerian oil is more important to the European Union, where imports nearly doubled between 2010 and 2012, than to the U.S., where imports have fallen in recent years in favor of domestic crude With tighter military budgets, the U.S. and European countries may be less inclined to act unless the global consequences of Gulf of Guinea piracy grow in scale.

Observers like Steffen believe



Courtesy of the EU Naval Force-Somalia

Noga Ameray/Stars and Stripes

A boarding party from the Italian helicopter carrier San Giusto, the flagship of the EU counterpiracy force off the Horn of Africa, captures a skiff with seven suspected pirates in October 2011.

that regardless of the presence of a policing agreement, lasting solutions will come only with concerted efforts within Gulf of Guinea countries, especially Nigeria.

"This isn't a question of sending more warships," he said. "This is a question of how, in the short term, to develop more methods of law and order, governance, those sorts of things, to strengthen western Africa countries — to strengthen what laws they have and make more use of the naval forces they have."

Solutions on shore?

In recent years, the U.S. and the EU have worked toward strengthening navies and judiciaries around the Gulf of Guinea region. The Navy conducts annual ex-

The Navy conducts annual exercises with the region's navies. It also has funded a coastal surveillance system that combines radar and a system that allows vessels to project their positions and routes.

In addition, the U.S. has shared SeaVision, a Web-based application developed by the U.S. Department of Transportation that gives a common picture of sea traffic. Navies can track ships and message one another about suspicious vessels.

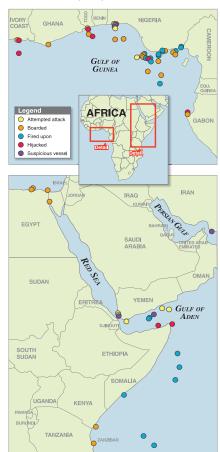
The EU, meanwhile, began a \$6.12 million project last fall to encourage seven countries along the gulf to coordinate on legal mechanisms and information-sharing, as well as mapping While some leaders in the Gulf of Guinea have asked for international policing to stymie piracy, help from abroad seems focused on shore for now.

Experts say the immediate future in the Gulf of Guinea likely will be dictated by events within Nigeria, which faces an economic downturn and a coming election.

Whatever happens, piracy in the Gulf of Guinea is likely to continue in some form, as it has in traditional shipping lanes off the Horn of Africa, in Indonesia and in East Asia.

"As long as ships go to sea, you're going to have pirates," McKnight said.

Stars and Stripes reporter Hendrick Simoes contributed to this report. beardsley.steven@stripes.com



Efforts to radicalize **Americans** worry FBI

By Richard A. Serrano Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — With Al-Qaida militants surging in the Middle East and North Africa, U.S. law enforcement officials are increasingly concerned about efforts to recruit and radicalize American citizens by drawing them to the region and sending them back to this country to carry out attacks FBI Director James B. Comey calls the

threat one of the bureau's top priorities and said the agency is working to identify and track U.S. residents who travel overseas, embrace al-Qaida ideology and return to the United States.

"We are focused on trying to figure out what our people are up to, who should be spoken to, who should be followed, who should be charged," Comey said in a recent meeting with reporters. "It's something we are intensely focused on."

Rep. Michael McCaul, R-Texas, chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, said al-Qaida, which has turned into a number of splinter groups, is just as ominous a threat as it was on Sept. 11, 2001, "Al-Qaida is not on the run but is in fact growing in strength at an alarming rate across the Middle East and North Africa," he said at a committee hearing last week.

Two cases of radicalized Americans surfaced last year.

Nicole Lynn Mansfield, a nurse from Flint, Mich., died in May while fighting alongside anti-government militants in northern Syria. She reportedly tossed a grenade from a passing car at Syrian government soldiers, who then opened fire on the vehicle.

Mansfield, 33, was still carrying her Michigan driver's license. Also found in her vehicle was a banner for one of the al-Qaida-linked rebel fronts fighting in Syria. She had married a man from Dubai and converted to Islam.

The other is Eric Harroun, a former U.S. Army private from Tucson, who pleaded guilty in September to conspiracy to violate arms control laws after fighting in Syria alongside al-Nusra Front, a branch of al-Oaida that the U.S. has designated a terrorist organization.

Harroun, 31, was never deployed by the Army to the region. He went to Syria on his own last January, posting images and videos on the Internet showing the fighting and complaining about President Bashar Assad. He initially faced a sentence of up to 30 years for firing a rocket-propelled grenade during a clash in Syria. He was arrested in March and then released upon his guilty plea in September, having served six months in iail.

In a "statement of facts" unsealed Jan. 9 in his federal court case, which Harroun signed, prosecutors said he "acted unlawfully and knowingly and not because of mistake, accident or other innocent reason,' making clear the U.S. government believes he joined the militants on purpose and was radicalized into their ideology.



KANTELE FRANKO/AP

Executed Ohio inmate Dennis McGuire's children — Amber, left, and Dennis — flank his wife, Missie McGuire, at a news conference on Friday in Dayton, Ohio.

Prolonged execution in Ohio fuels lethal injection debate

By Molly Hennessy-Fiske Los Angeles Times

HOUSTON - An Ohio inmate's drawnout execution last week led to an outcry about the increased use of new lethal injection drugs by the country's 32 death penalty states, a practice that experts predict will lead to more problems.

Dennis McGuire took more than 15 minutes to die Thursday, appearing to gasp and snort, according to witnesses. His lethal injection was a combination of two drugs never tried before in a U.S. execution, according to experts at the Death Penalty Information Center in Washington.

McGuire, 53, was sentenced to death for the 1989 rape and stabbing death of Joy Stewart, 22, who was seven months pregnant.

McGuire's two children, who witnessed the execution, announced plans Friday to file a federal lawsuit against the state alleging that the execution violated McGuire's constitutional protection against cruel and unusual punishment. They are seeking a moratorium on executions until officials devise a more humane method.

"I watched him try to sit up against the straps on the gurney," said the inmate's son, who is also named Dennis McGuire. "I watched him repeatedly clench his fist. It appeared to me he was fighting for his life but suffocating.

"The agony and terror of watching my father suffocate to death lasted more than 19 minutes. It was the most awful moment in my life.'

A few minutes before McGuire was put to death, Ohio's prison director, Gary Mohr, said he believed the state's planning would produce "a humane, dignified execution" consistent with the law. In pressing for the execution, state Assistant Attorney General Thomas Madden had argued that condemned prisoners were "not entitled to a pain-free execution.'

U.S. District Judge Gregory Frost sided with the state, but at the request of Mc-Guire's lawyers, ordered officials to photograph and preserve drug vials, packaging and syringes.

Ohio and other states have been forced in recent years to use a new mix of drugs and

reconsider lethal injection practices after manufacturers, under pressure from death penalty opponents, limited the distribution of drugs previously used in executions, prompting shortages.

In September, Ohio officials announced that they had run out of the lethal injection drug pentobarbital and would switch to a combination of midazolam, a sedative, and hydromorphone, a painkiller similar to morphine. About 20 states had



switched to the lethal injection drug pentobarbital after a U.S supplier halted distribution of sodium thiopental in 2011 amid international tests against capital punishment.

Eight states started using a single lethal dose of pentobarbital in executions, and officials in five more

states said they planned to do so, according to Richard Dieter, director of the Death Penalty Information Center. Then in 2012, the manufacturer of pen

tobarbital announced that it was unsafe for lethal injections and restricted its sale.

Now states including Ohio are looking for alternatives.

Difficulties arising from new drug protocols not only raise the question of whether inmates' rights are being violated but whether executioners are making mistakes, said Deborah Denno, a professor at Fordham Law School who has researched the death penalty for two decades.

There have been long-standing problems with administering lethal injections, she said, citing instances in which corrections officials couldn't find an inmate's vein or let a syringe pop out of an inmate's arm.

On Jan. 10, Michael Lee Wilson complained of pain during his execution in Oklahoma using a three-drug combination that included pentobarbital. State officials declined to say whether the drugs came from a compounding pharmacy.

Oklahoma officials do not plan to change the method of lethal injection, department spokesman Jerry Massie said.

The agony and terror of watching my father suffocate to death lasted more than 19 minutes. 7

Dennis McGuire son of executed inmate

US braces for another frigid blast of arctic air

By MATT PEARCE Los Angeles Times

Much of the U.S. is about to get pretty cold again.

A huge dome of arctic air will send temeratures plummeting across parts of the Midwest and Northeast early this week in a deep freeze reminiscent of early January's "polar vortex."

Temperatures are expected to go well below zero in Minnesota by Tuesday. Wisconsin, Michigan and upstate New York are expected to get some of the worst of the subzero temperatures through the earliest part of the week. Then the cold will move south.

'The amount of cold air that we've seen this year, we haven't seen probably since 1996 in the upper Midwest and Great Lakes

of cold air

that we've

seen this

vear. we

probably

haven't seen

since 1996

in the upper

Midwest and

Great Lakes

region, and

maybe even

region, and maybe even as far east as The amount upstate New York,' said Tony Zaleski,

meteorologist with the National Weather Service in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area.

So is this polar vortex No. 2?

Not guite, Zaleski said. While both systems will have involved arctic air sliding down into the U.S., the new deep freeze won't the brutal have frigid winds that made the polar voras far east as tex so dangerous.

upstate New "I would say that this amount of cold air is going to be ex-Tony Zaleski treme as well, but it won't be as extreme National Weather Service as our area saw a

few weeks ago," Zaleski said, alluding to the wind chills of 40 to 60 degrees below zero across Minnesota.

This time, the wind chills will be about 20 degrees higher there, but still dangerously cold. The cold air was expected to send temperatures below freezing as far south as northern Florida by Tuesday night, according to an AccuWeather.com forecast.

The cold may be intense enough to cause school closings, frozen pipes and water main breaks," Alex Sosnowski, senior meteorologist for AccuWeather.com, said.

"Heating systems may struggle to keep up, people will spend more money keep ing their homes and businesses warm and ice will again build up on area rivers," Sos-nowski wrote. "Where the cold is accompanied by snow, travel delays are likely.

While AccuWeather also called the new weather phenomenon a "polar vortex," the Weather Service's Zaleski hesitated to embrace the term, saving he preferred simply to say "it's extreme arctic air coming

"It happens every winter," Zaleski said.
"Basically, you've got low pressure over the
Arctic regions, and what'll happen is, the jet stream will weaken, and it will allow huge pools of cool air to surge south. Depending on what part of planet you're on, it could funnel down into North America or Europe or a large portion of Russia, eastern Asia.

"Basically, it's a common thing."

Obama: Racial tension has role in popularity

By BRIAN WINGFIELD Bloomberg News

WASHINGTON - President Barack Obama said that racial tensions may have softened his popularity among white voters within the last two years, according to a story posted on The New Yorker magazine's website Sunday. "There's no doubt that there's some folks

who just really dislike me because they don't like the idea of a black president," Obama said in the article by David Remnick, appearing in the magazine's Jan. 27 edition.

"Now, the flip side of it is there are some black folks and maybe some white folks who really like me and give me the benefit of the doubt precisely because I'm a black president,' Obama said in his most direct comments on how race has affected his political standing since he's been in office.

Obama's second term has been marked by controversies including a partial government shutdown in October, revelations that the National Security Agency has gathered personal mobile phone data and the troubled rollout of health-insurance expansion.

Obama's approval rating among all voters is 39 percent and his disapproval rating is 53 percent, according to a Gallup Poll conducted

Obama offered reflections on a variety of subjects in the New Yorker story, including his view about the dangers of playing professional football, which has been the subject of media scrutiny over players' head injuries.

"I would not let my son play pro football," the article quotes Obama as saying.

squared with his enjoyment of the game as a spectator, Obama said professional players are aware of the inherent risk in playing a full-con-

They know what they're buying into.' Obama said. "It is no longer a secret. It's sort of the feeling I have about smokers, you know?

Obama acknowledged that reports of U.S. surveillance programs, including allegations that the government tapped German Chancellor Angela Merkel's mobile phone, had created a "breach of trust," Remnick reported.

Obama said he also assumes others are try ing to spy on him, and for this reason he doesn't have a phone, according to The New Yorker.

"There are European governments that we know spy on us, and there is a little bit of Claude Rains in 'Casablanca' — shocked that gambling is going on," he said, referring to the actor who played the police captain in the 1942 movie.



President Barack Obama said in a magazine interview that his race may be a factor in how he is regarded by voters.

idea." He said he's troubled that poor kids,

But Obama urges a cautious approach, saying people who think legalizing pot will solve social problems are "probably over-

When it comes to harder drugs, he says. the harm to users and the social costs are

Spying overhaul is facing opposition The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Leaders of the congressional intelligence committees are opposing a key part of President Barack Obama's attempt to overhaul U.S. surveillance, saying it is unworkable for the government to let someone else control how Americans phone records are stored

Obama, under pressure over the controversy surrounding government spying, said last week he wants bulk phone data stored outside the government to reduce the risk that the records will be

Rep. Mike Rogers, chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, said Sunday that Obama had intensified a sense of uncertainty about the country's ability to root out terrorist threats. Obama didn't say who should have control of Americans' data; he directed the attorney general and director of national intelligence to find a

"We really did need a decision on Friday, and what we got was lots of uncertainty," Rogers, R-Mich., said. "And just in my conversations over the weekend with intelligence officials, this new level of uncertainty is already having a bit of an impact on our ability to protect Americans by finding terrorists who are trying to reach into the United States

The president also said he will require a special judge's advance approval before intelligence agencies can examine someone's data and will force analysts to keep their searches closer to suspected

"And I think that's a very dif-ficult thing," said Sen. Dianne Feinstein, who chairs the Senate Intelligence Committee. "Because the whole purpose of this program is to provide instantaneous information to be able to disrupt any plot that may be tak-

Under the surveillance program, the NSA gathers phone numbers called and the length of conversations, but not the content of calls. Ohama said the NSA sometimes needs to tap those records to find people linked to sus-

But he said eventually the bulk

abused

solution within 60 days.

terrorists or organizations.

ing place.

pected terrorists.

data should be stored somewhere out of the government's hands.







Obama: Alcohol worse than pot

WASHINGTON — President Barack

But he says in an interview with The New Yorker that pot is less dangerous than alcohol, "in terms of its impact on the individual consumer."

Obama says he doesn't think marijuana is more dangerous than alcohol. Obama doesn't argue for legalizing pot.

The president has acknowledged using

pot when he was young and calls it "a bad

many of them blacks and Latinos, are far more likely to get locked up for smoking pot than middle-class kids

stating the case.

profound.

"Every once in a while we'll get

some hate that is truly over the top

a truly venomous voice mail message." DeMaio said. "Every

time we need a lift-me-up, we play it and chuckle. It's just a re-

minder that what we're fighting

He's fighting his own party, too.

The GOP's formal platform, as

set in its 2012 national conven-

tion, declares that "marriage, the

union of one man and one woman,

must be upheld as the national

marriage has become less vis-

ible recently as the GOP works to improve its image and polling

suggests that most Americans

Republican opposition to gay

for matters.'

standard."

From The Associated Press

Gay GOP candidates challenge party divisions

By STEVE PEOPLES The Associated Press

MANCHESTER, N.H. - Dan Innis's husband persuaded him to run for the U.S. House.

It didn't matter that Innis, a former business school dean, faced an aggressive Democratic incumbent, GOP colleagues who oppose his right to marry, and history — no Republican ever has been openly gay when first elected to

"He said, 'You've got to do this," Innis recalled, running in the 1st Congressional District, which covers most of eastern New Hampshire. "He said, 'You need to take this opportunity and see if vou can make a difference.' Innis plays down his sexuality

as a campaign issue, but acknowledges the historic undertones. He is among three openly gay Republicans nationwide expected to run in this year's midterm elec-tions. None has an easy path to Washington.

Each ultimately must unseat a Democratic incumbent, overcome brushes with hate and confront passionate divisions within the GOP about the way they live their lives. The Republican Party is trying to soften its tone on divisive social issues, but many religious conservatives see homosexuality as immoral.

Innis is married to a man, as is



Massachusetts State Sen. Richard Tisei, left, seen campaigning in Wakefield, Mass., in November 2009, plans to run as an openly gay Republican for a Massachusetts congressional seat.

former state Sen. Richard Tisei. R-Mass., who is expected to run again for the northeastern Massachusetts congressional seat he narrowly lost in 2012 to Democratic Rep. John Tierney.

In San Diego, former Republi-can city councilman Carl DeMaio is challenging first-term Democratic Rep. Scott Peters.

"You can't focus on any of the nasty comments or attacks - not just from far right, also from far left," DeMaio said. During his unsuccessful 2012

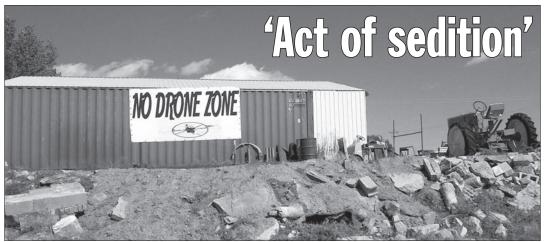
Republican mayoral campaign, DeMaio and his male partner of six years were booed as they walked hand in hand in San Diego's gay pride parade.

support same-sex marriage. Last month, Rep. Randy Forbes, R-Va., drew national attention for pressuring the House Republican campaign arm not to support openly gay candidates. That led House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, to pledge public support for

gay Republicans.

Boehner traveled to Massachusetts in 2012 to help raise money for Tisei, who notes that more than 70 members of Congress supported his last campaign

Still, Tisei said the GOP must do more to change the perception that "we're the party that wants to deny people their rights and interfere with their personal lives."



Frank Fields, mayor of Deer Tail, Colo., posted this anti-drone message that could be seen from the highway before it was stolen. He initially put it up as a joke, but now he's signing off on drone-hunting licenses.

Part fun, part payback: US Army veteran in small Colo. town calls for open season on drones

By MATT PEARCE Los Angeles Times

DEER TRAIL, Colo. - Wearing a black duster and a black cowboy hat, Phil Steel walked to the front of the meeting room armed with a Nerf gun and a smile.

The U.S. Army veteran was there to pitch his big idea; an ordinance that would legalize and regulate drone hunting inside Deer Trail city limits. If approved, residents could pay \$25 to get a drone-hunting license; the town would pay a bounty for every drone bagged.

"Really?" someone asked sarcastically as the theme music to "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly" blared during Steel's entrance. Laughter rippled through the

Steel had hammered out the 2.800word ordinance in just four hours. Its key points:

- When a drone flies into its airspace. Deer Trail will consider it an act of war.
- You can shoot only at drones flying lower than 1,000 feet.
- Unless your life is in danger, you can only fire up to three shots at a drone.

Some at the August meeting thought the drone-hunting ordinance might be a good idea. Others used words like "stupid" and "a joke" to describe a proposal that they worried might become an embarrassment.

To many, that's exactly what it has

Out in the loping, golden plains about an hour's drive east of Denver, this little town of lonesome homes and chain-link fences looks a lot like the other hubs that sit astride Interstate 70 as traffic streaks toward Kansas. Blink, and you miss it.

Then things in Deer Trail (population about 550) changed when the town's trustees split 3-to-3 on the ordinance, automatically kicking the proposal to the residents for a vote. In doing so, the trustees managed to garner national media attention for Deer Trail at a time when drones are poised to become a part of everyday life.

Mention the word "drone" and locals hang their heads or throw up their hands. The idea is either a fundraiser for the town, a dangerous joke or - according to its creator - a stand against the federal government, corporations and drug dealers.

"I have declared the sovereignty and the supremacy of the airspace of my town,' said Steel, 49. "This is an act of sedition, and I proudly state that."

'Nobody likes humor'

Just by the interstate, there used to be a big white sign sitting next to a pink tractor outside the mayor's welding shop. "No drone zone." it said, before somebody stole it in December.

Mayor Frank Fields said he'd put the sign up as a joke when the drone debate first started. But who's laughing anymore? "Nobody likes humor." Fields said re-

cently of the town that he runs. Before last year, the town was most fa-

mous for claiming to be the home of America's first rodeo in 1869; now, it's Steel's contentious proposal.

Steel's involvement in the drone ordinance has antagonized many of the town's residents, including some of those who support the measure.

I agree with the Fourth Amendment rights (argument), but I don't like him," said one resident waiting by the pump at the Deer Trail Phillips 66 gas station. She declined to give her name for fear of caus-

The proposal to legalize drone hunting by selling licenses appealed to Fields purely as a source of income, the mayor said, because the town's coffers are bare and residents can't agree to pass a sales tax.

"A little bit of free money is going be good, we thought," said Fields, 57. "Evidently, nobody wanted that, either. Now people are trying to oust me and the town clerk because we went kind of far.'

After a little prodding, Fields acknowl-

edged that the town clerk is, yes, also his stadium, at the Boston Marathon." wife. That's just the kind of place Deer Trail is.

'Very good people'

There are no drones flying over Deer Trail, it should be mentioned. At midday, when everybody is at work, there is hardly even any traffic. All you might hear is the snort of a horse fenced in somebody's vard or the croak of a rooster.

"Across the board, very good people," said Arapahoe County Sheriff Grayson Robinson, who is retiring at the end of January. "I'm very proud to serve every one of them. There's a bit of an independent streak out there, which I have no objection

to. "But," the sheriff added, "I obviously obiect to the ordinance."

Domestic drones are coming. The Federal Aviation Administration is working on plans to integrate drones into civilian airspace as soon as 2015. It has taken notice of Deer Trail's proposal.

"A (drone) hit by gunfire could crash, causing damage to persons or property on the ground, or it could collide with other objects in the air," the FAA said in a statement. "Shooting at an unmanned aircraft could result in criminal or civil liability, just as would firing at a manned

But those arguments — and especially Amazon's recent announcement about considering drone package deliveries - only bolstered Steel's quest.

"You think they're the only ones?" Steel said of the Amazon drones. "There will be millions of these. ... Which drones are being flown by drug dealers? Burglars who want to case neighborhoods? If you can also deliver a pizza, you can deliver a bomb, anywhere - at a crowded football

'Element of payback'

Though parts of the ordinance are meant to be funny, Steel said he is serious about its message. He wrote it like he talks. It has frequent allusions to the federal government making power grabs over American airspace and American rights.

"To tell the truth, when I wrote the ordinance, there was an element of payback," he said

In 2010, SWAT teams and a bomb robot rolled up to Steel's house, smashing his doors and windows to enter and look around.

"I'm in Deer Trail. We don't have these things," Tanya Lonneke, one of Steel's neighbors, told a news crew from Denver. "It looked like half the U.S. military was over there.

It turned out that Steel was a suspect involving a strange incident at his workplace in Arvada, about 60 miles away, in which a co-worker told police that when he picked up his telephone, liquid mercury oozed out of the receiver and onto his face.

Mercury is odorless and dangerous to breathe, and Arvada police suspected Steel of attempting to kill his co-worker. Police searched his home for chemicals but did not find enough evidence to charge Steel. Arvada police say Steel remains a person of interest in the case. He denied any involvement

Even though the measure hasn't been passed. Steel has sold drone-hunting licenses to buyers around the country for \$25 a pop, raising suspicions around town that he's just in it for the money. He had a spreadsheet detailing several hundred PayPal transactions from 41 states and two provinces in Canada.

Lonneke, Steel's neighbor, bragged on Facebook about buying a license: "Today is the best day of my life I GOT MY DRONE HUNTING LICENSE TODAY!!!!!!"

The licenses are printed on vellum and come with the warning that they "may not be recognized by tyrannical municipal, state or federal governments."

[M]ay not be recognized by tyrannical municipal, state or federal governments. 7

Warning on drone-hunting license



CHARLES DHARAPAK/AF

Remembering civil rights leader

Washington Mayor Vincent Gray, fourth from right in the group at left, takes part in an annual wreathlaying ceremony Monday at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial in Washington on the federal holiday designated to honor the slain civil rights leader.

Urban decay on streets named for MLK is 'a national problem'

By Alan Scher Zagier The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — A walk down the 6-mile-long city street named for the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. ylelds plenty of images that surely would unsettle the civil rights leader: shuttered storefronts, open-air drug markets and a glut of pawn shops, quickie check-cashing providers and liquor stores.

The urban decay along Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive in St. Louis can be found in other major American cities, from Houston and Milwaukee to Washington.

"It's a national problem," said Melvin White, 46, a postal worker in St. Louis and founder of a 3year-old nonprofit group that is trying to restore King's legacy on asphalt. "Dr. King would be turning over in his grave."

Nearly three decades into the observance of Monday's federal holiday honoring the slain civil rights leader and Nobel Peace Prize laureate, the continuing decline of the most visible symbols of King's work has White and others calling for a renewed commitment to the more than 900 streets nationwide named in the Atlanta native's honor. The effort centers in St. Louis, where the small non-profit is working to reclaim MLK roadways as a source of pride and inspiration, not disappointment over a dream derailed.

White's goals are ambitious, his resources admittedly modest. A neighborhood park is planned across the street from the group's headquarters. An urban agriculture project to encourage residents to eat healthy and grow their



IFFE ROPERSON/AF

Melvin White, founder of the Beloved Streets of America project, walks past a boarded-up building Thursday during a tour of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive in St. Louis.

own food has preliminary support from nearby Washington University, one of the country's wealthiest private colleges.

Above all, Beloved Streets of America wants to build a community from the ashes of what was once a thriving retail corridor when White was a child.

The template can be found just a mile away. Delmar Boulevard, which saw a similar decline, is now a vibrant retail corridon packed with restaurants, night-clubs, a renovated movie theater and a boutique hotel. The renaissance earned Delmar recognition in 2007 as one of "10 Great Streets in America" by the American Planning Association.

Journalist Jonathan Tilove, who wrote a 2003 book based on visits to 650 King streets nationwide, called the King byways "black America's Main Street." "Map them and you map a nation within a nation, a place where white America seldom goes and black America can be itself," he

While streets named for King undoubtedly resonate widely he he black community, a University of Tennessee geography professor whose research explores the cultural and political significance of such streets said the compromised condition of streets named for King in St. Louis and other cities deserves broader attention.

"In some ways we racially profile these streets," said Derek Alderman, author of a 2007 study that found a smaller disparity among MLK-named streets and other "main streets" than is popularly portrayed. "We need to move beyond those images and see what concrete lives and realities are living on those streets."

King talks of JFK in rediscovered 1960 recording

By Lucas L. Johnson II The Associated Press

NASHVII.JE, Tenn. — As Americans reflect on the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr., an audiotape of an interview with the civil rights leader discovered in a Tennessee attic sheds new light on a famous phone call John F. Kennedy made to King's wife more than 50 years ago.

Historians generally agree that Kennedy's phone call to Coretta Scott King expressing concern over her husband's arrest in October 1960 — and Robert Kennedy's work behind the scenes to get King released — helped JFK win the White House a month later.

King, while appreciative, wasn't as quick to credit the Kennedys alone with getting him out of jail, according to a previously unreleased portion of the interview with the civil rights leader days after Kennedy's election.

"The Kennedy family did have some part ... in the release," King says in the recording, which was discovered in 2012. "But I must make it clear that many other forces worked to bring it about also."

A copy of the original recording will be played for visitors at the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tenn., for a "King Day" event Monday.

King was arrested a few weeks before the presidential election at an Atlanta stirn. Charges were dropped, but King was held for allegedly violating probation for an earlier traffic offense and was transferred to the Georgia State Prison in Reidsville, Ga.

The Kennedys intervened, and King was released. Their intervention won the support of black voters who helped give Kennedy the edge in several key states.

Despite their help, however, King was careful not to give them too much credit.

"I think Dr. King was aware in the tape that he probably did more for John F. Kennedy than perhaps John F. Kennedy did for hin," said Keya Morgan, a New York-based collector and expert on historical artifacts. Morgan acquired the reel-to-reel audiotape from Chattanooga, Tenn., resident Stephon Tull, who discovered it while cleaning out his father's attic.

Raymond Winbush, director of the Institute for Urban Research at Maryland's Morgan State University, said Kennedy's call to King's wife was political in nature because the Kennedys had been slow to get involved in the civil rights movement.

Winbush said John Kennedy didn't actually commit to the movement until a few months before his assassination when civil rights leader Medgar Evers was gunned down by a Klansman out-



Al

U.S. Ambassador Adlai Stevenson, center shakes hands with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. at the White House as President John F. Kennedy looks on Dec. 17. 1962.

side his Jackson, Miss., home just after midnight on June 12, 1963.

The slaying came hours after JFK's television speech in support of civil rights and helped propel the struggle for equality to national attention.

"There were a lot of black folks who ... weren't fully committed to his campaign," said Winbush, who is also a historian and psychologist. "That call he made to Coretta moved black folks."

At the time, the Republicans—
the party of President Abraham
Lincoln—enjoyed more black
support than it does today, in part
because the Democratic Party
included white southern lawmakers and governors who supported
racial segregation.

Winbush said King's comments on the tape were measured because he probably didn't want to offend black supporters, like the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, a leading civil rights organization, that also had aided him

"He kind of went in the middle." Winbush said.

till, the Chattanooga man who discovered the tape, said his father had planned to write a book about the racism he encountered growing up in Chattanooga and later as an adult. Tull said his dad, an insurance salesman, interviewed King when he visited the city, but never completed the book and stored the recording.

In the recording, King also discusses his definition of nonviolence, his visit to Africa and the impact of the civil rights movement.

"I am convinced that when the history books are written in future years, historians will have to record this movement as one of the greatest epochs of our heritage" he said



OTOS BY AL SEIB, LOS ANGELES TIMES/MC

With assistance from Armando Jimenez, right, Paul Gibbons uses a tool to deface the golden domes of a ploughshare tortoise in Los Angeles on Jan. 14.

Rare tortoises' domes branded to reduce their appeal to poachers

By Louis Sahagun Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — The booming illegal international wildlife trade forced conservationists to do the unthinkable earlier this month: Brand the golden domes of two of the rarest tortoises on Earth to reduce their black market value by making it easier for authorities to trace them if stolen.

"It's heartbreaking that it's come to this, but it's the right thing to do," Paul Gibbons, managing director of the nonprofit Turtle Conservancy's Behler Chelonian Center in Ventura County, said as he gently placed a 30-pound adult female ploughshare tortoise onto a small table.

With a steady hand and an electric engraving tool, he carved an identification code on the high, rounded shell as the creature with weary eyes and gleaming carapace peered calmly into the distance. The tortoise was branded for life, which in her case would be roughly 160 years.

"We've blemished her natural beauty, so she's just a number in a system now," Gibbons said. "No. 7001 MG." The 2-inch-by-1½-inch block figures were placed at the top of the turtle's back, a location chosen to avoid interfering with the expansion of the shell, which grows at the edges.

The conservancy's goal is to mark every one of the estimated 360 ploughshares in captive breeding programs around the world and the 300 believed to be remaining in the wild

So far, no rare tortoise or turtle with identification markings has turned up in illegal markets monitored by law enforcement authorities, conservationists said.



A tortoise sports a defaced shell at the Turtle Conservancy's Behler Chelonian Center in Los Angeles. The shells are defaced to reduce their value on the black market and make them easier to trace.

Decades of intense collecting, hunting and habitat destruction have brought that species and dozens of others to the brink of extinction. Now, sanctuaries and zoos are using visible identification marks — shell notches, clipped toenails, paint, laser inscribing, tattoos and engraving — as a tool to fight poaching and dissuade wealthy collectors willing to pay tens of thousands

of dollars for critically endangered turtles and tortoises.

The shells of two confiscated ploughshare tortoises were engraved at the Singapore Zoo in December. In October, the Turtle Conservancy helped mark the shells of 150 Burmese star tortoises in Myanmar.

Keeping rare turtles and tortoises safe, however, will require a level of security that at this point is elusive at best.

This month, Indonesian officials at Soekarno-Hatta International Airport in Jakarta rescued more than 8,000 baby pig-nosed turtles hidden in suitcases and believed

headed for China and Singapore.

In December, Royal Thai Customs officials confiscated a suitcase containing 62 rare radiated tortoises at Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi International Airport.

In November, authorities in a Thai airport discovered 432 protected tortoises and 52 black pond turtles worth about \$\$110,000 in unclaimed luggage arriving from Bangladesh.

In March, authorities seized 54 ploughshare tortoises found in the suitcases of two individuals attempting to enter Thailand.

Golden coin turtles have been selling for thousands of dollars each since poachers recently started claiming that consuming extracts from the species could cure cancer.

The two ploughshare tortoises marked earlier this month were flown in from Tai-wan, where they were seized in 2008. The female now known as No. 7001 MG was successfully mated last year with the only male ploughshare tortoise of breeding age outside Madagascar.

Five eggs she laid in November are being incubated. They are the first ploughshare tortoise eggs produced in an international conservation program. "We still aren't sure they are fertile," Gibbons said.

As the rarest tortoise on Earth, the ploughshare is highly valued by global animal traffickers and fetches tens of thousands of dollars on the Asian black market, conservationists say.

Iran begins its partial shutdown of nuclear work

By ALI AKBAR DARFINI The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran - Iran started to shut down its most sensitive nuclear work on Monday, part of a landmark deal struck with world powers that eases international concerns over the country's nuclear program and clears the way for a partial lifting of sanctions, the state media said.

The United Nations nuclear agency, the International Atomic Energy Agency, confirmed that higher-level uranium enrichment in the Natanz facility in central Iran had been stopped.

Iran's decision to halt higherlevel enrichment is seen as a key step toward easing Western fears over Tehran's nuclear program. The West fears Iran seeks to build a nuclear bomb. The Islamic Republic insists the program is solely for peaceful purposes.

The shutdown follows a historic deal reached Iran reached with world powers in Geneva on Nov. 24 that calls for an end to higherlevel enrichment in exchange for the lifting of some economic sanctions.

Iranian state TV said authorities halted enrichment of uranium to 20 percent by disconnecting the cascades of centrifuges enriching uranium at the facility. That level is just steps away from bomb-making materials.

The broadcast said international inspectors were on hand to witness the stoppage before leaving to monitor the suspension of enrichment at Fordo, another uranium enrichment site in central Iran.

The official IRNA news agency said Iran also started Monday to convert part of its stockpile of 20 percent enriched uranium to oxide, which can be used to produce nuclear fuel but is difficult to reconvert for weapons use.

Under the Geneva deal, Iran agreed to halt its 20 percent enrichment program but continue enrichment up to 5 percent.

It also agreed to convert half of its stockpile of 20 percent enriched uranium to oxide and dilute the remaining half to 5 percent over a period of six months.

In addition to the enrichment measures, the six-month interim deal also commits Iran to opening its nuclear program to greater U.N. inspections and providing more details on its nuclear activities and facilities. Iran will also refrain from commissioning its under-construction 40 megawatt heavy water reactor in Arak, central Iran.

The U.S., European Union and other world powers are studying the U.N. nuclear agency report, said U.S. State Department deputy spokeswoman Marie Harf. She said the U.S. would have further comment

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Iran's parties have decision had the opto halt portunity to review report." higher-level enrichment change is seen as the nuclear a key step curbs, Iran receives a toward halt to new easing sanctions Western and easing of existing fears over sanctions. Tehran's Measures nuclear targeting petrochemiprogram. cal

ucts. gold and other precious metals, the auto industry, passenger plane parts and services will be lifted immediately.

The Geneva deal allows Iran to continue exporting crude oil in its current level, which is reported to be about 1 million barrels a day.

In Brussels, foreign ministers from the 28 European Union members, gathered for one of their periodic consultations, were poised to suspend some sanctions for six months if U.N. inspectors report that Iran's uranium enrichment efforts have halted.

The sanctions have weakened Iran's economy, and an easing of the measures could provide relief to ordinary Iranians.





CLAUDE PARIS/AF

Flooding on French Riviera

Motor boats lie wrecked in the port of La Londe Les Maures, near Toulon, southern France, on Monday after unusually heavy rains flooded the French Riviera, leaving two people dead and some thousands without electricity or access to roads. The administration for the Var region evacuated some residents and urged others to stay indoors until the waters recede.

Ukraine street battles escalating

The Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — After a night of vicious street battles, anti-government protesters and police clashed anew Monday in the Ukrainian capital Kiev. Hundreds of protesters hurled rocks and stun grenades and police responded with tear gas.

The violence has seriously escalated Ukraine's political crisis, which has been marked by two months of largely peaceful protests.

The pro-Western protests in Kiev began Nov. 21 after President Viktor Yanukovych shelved a long-planned political and economic treaty with the European Union and then accepted a huge bailout package from Russian President Vladimir Putin instead. The protests swelled to hundreds of thousands — the biggest since Ukraine's 2004 pro-democracy Orange Revolution — after riot police violently broke up a small peaceful student protest. Clashes broke out on Dec. 1 between radical protesters and police, but demonstrations since then have been peaceful. Sunday's violence came after

Yanukovych pushed through a sweeping anti-protest law that significantly increased fines and imposed jail terms for unauthorized street protests. The new law also prohibits activists from wearing helmets or masks to demonstrations, curbs free speech and limits the ability to investigate or monitor the activity of officials, including judges. The law also restricts the activity of nongovernmental organizations funded by the West, as many are in Ukraine.

The law mirrors anti-opposition legislation passed in Russia, prompting accusations that Yanukovych is following in Putin's footsteps in building a police state. The United States has called the legislation "undemocratic" and the European Union has urged Ukraine to revise it.

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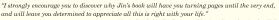
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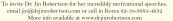
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Harvard University PhD (International Inspirational / Motivational Speaker & Bestselling Author (Delivered over 2,000 speeches in English, Japanese, & Korean)





For your own Best Life, read MAJOR DREAM: From Immigrant Housemaid to Harvard PhD

Bombings kill 28 as Iraq offensive continues

By Sameer N. Vacour The Associated Press

BAGHDAD - A series of bombings in central Iraq killed 28 people on Monday, as a government official claimed that al-Qaida-linked fighters have dug in to a city they seized last month and possess enough heavy weanons to storm into the country's capital.

The bombings, mainly in Baghdad targeting marketplaces and court buildings, came as the army presses an all-out offensive announced Sunday to retake the area but has come up against heavy resistance.

Since late December, members of Iraq's al-Qaida branch - known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant — have taken over parts of Ramadi, the capital of the largely Sunni western province of Anbar. They also control the center of the nearby city of Fallujah, along with other non-al-Qaida groups that also oppose the Shiite-led government.

"The "The weapons that were brought inside Falluiah are huge. advanced and frankly enough to occupy Baghdad," Deputy In-

terior Adnan The al-Asadi said weapons in a speech, adding that Iraqi forces that were brought are still fightinside ing battles" there **Falluiah** and in Raare huge. madi. He did not elaborate advanced on the type and frankly or quantity of the weapons. enough Inside Rato occupy madi, police

Baghdad. 7 said a roadside homb Adnan hit a police al-Asadi convoy. kill-Iraq's deputy ing two pointerior minister

licemen and a local television cameraman who had been accompanying the police during the clashes.

The deadliest of Monday's blasts hit an outdoor market south of the capital, killing seven people and wounding 13, police said. A bomb in a nearby commercial street killed two more, while another three died and seven were wounded in a southeastern district. Another bomb in a northern suburb killed three and wounded six.

Two separate car bombs near court buildings also killed seven and wounded 22, said police. Later, a car bomb went off in a commercial street in western Baghdad, killing three people and wounding nine others

There has been no claim of responsibility for the latest attacks. Al-Qaida's Iraq branch, which has been gaining strength in recent months, frequently attack soft targets such as cafes and markets in an effort to undermine the Shiite-led government in Baghdad.

Tuesday's attacks bring the death toll for this month to at least 387, according to an Associated Press count. Many attacks may



Civilians gather at the site of a car bomb attack at an outdoor market in Baghdad's al-Jadidah district on Monday.

Fallout: Pending peace conference a 'step in the right direction'

FROM FRONT PAGE

"If we look back on the wars of the reformation in Europe, which pit Catholic versus Protestant, we can see how this kind of interreligious conflict can consume an entire region," Stavridis said, referring to the series of armed conflicts that devastated much of central and western Europe and killed millions.

Stavridis' warning comes as the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, a powerful al-Qaida-affiliated group and the main jihadist force operating on both sides of the porous frontier, is battling to unite Sunni populations in eastern Syria and western Iraq. The militants already control swathes of territory, advancing their aim to establish an Islamic Emirate, which would unite the desert region.

ISIL has become the main source of terrorism inside both nations

In Iraq, at least 8,868 Iraqis were killed in a series of attacks and suicide bombings last year, according to government statis-tics, making 2013 the bloodiest year since the withdrawal of U.S. forces. Syria is being torn apart in a three-way war between rival opposition groups and the Shiite-dominated army of President Bashar Assad that has claimed 130,000 lives and generated nearly 2.3 million refugees, according

to U.N. statistics.
Currently, the focus of the fighting in Syria is between ISIL and more moderate, Western-backed Sunni rivals. That has claimed about 700 lives since the beginning of the year, mostly around the northern city of Aleppo, according to the London-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. In December, the United States suspended its official aid shipments to the Western-backed Free Syrian Army after some U.S. aid was seized by a collection of al-Qaida-linked militias.

Across the border in Irag's Anbar province, ISIL rallied the support of local Sunni tribesmen angry with the Shiite-led government of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki and seized control of the cities of Falluiah and Ramadi.

The Associated Press reported

The Europeans need to go on defense on this one. They face an intelligence and a law enforcement problem as these radicalized vouth begin to return home. 7

Jacqueline L. Hazelton

professor of strategy and policy at the U.S. Naval War College

on Monday that Iraqi government forces and allied tribal militias had launched an offensive to push al-Qaida militants from parts of Ramadi. The center of Falluiah - where nearly 100 U.S. Marines were killed and hundreds wounded in a battle 10 years ago - remains in iihadist hands.

On Monday, Iraqi Deputy Interior Minister Adnan al-Asadi claimed that the al-Oaida-linked fighters now possess enough heavy weapons to mount an attack

on Baghdad itself, the AP said. In Syria, the civil war has already caused an unprecedented sectarian split among Middle Eastern nations, with Sunni Muslim states such as Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states backing the rebels and aligned against Shiite Iran and its allies in Iraq and Lebanon. who support Assad's regime.

Diplomatic efforts to solve the Syrian crisis are now focused on a peace conference in Montreux. Switzerland, scheduled to start Tuesday and co-hosted by Russia and the United States. Assad's government, whose forces have scored a number of tactical victories in recent months, has said it will attend the so-called Geneva II talks. On Monday, Syria's Western-backed National Coalition threatened to boycott the forthcoming talks after the United Nations invited Iran to take part.

Stavridis said the hostilities had the potential to quickly spread to neighboring nations and then fur-

"It can and will create ungoverned zones of open conflict within easy range of NATO nations in Europe and friends in the region, from Saudi Arabia to the Gulf to Jordan and Israel," he said in an interview conducted by email.

"While not perfect, the Geneva

II Conference on Syria is a step in the right direction," Stavridis said. "NATO could play a role if authorized in peacekeeping, but we are still a long way from that.

Stavridis was the first Navy admiral to serve as NATO's top military officer. As such, his responsibilities included the war in Afghanistan,

campaign against Libva. erations the Balkans and anti-piracy patrols off the coast of He is now

dean of the **Stavridis** Fletcher

Somalia.

School of Law and Diplomacy at

Tufts University. He said the rise of al-Qaidalinked groups in the region would likely cause mass migrations to Europe, and particularly to nations on its southern fringe whose fragile economies are particularly vulnerable to disruptions caused by such an influx.

Up to now, almost all of Syria's refugees have fled to nearby countries like Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt. But increasing numbers have been crossing illegally into the European Union. Last year, roughly 11,600 migrants — most of them entered EU member Bulgaria from Turkey, according to U.N. statistics. Many then travel on to France, Germany or Scandinavia, and the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees is asking the European Union to accommodate 30,000 of them.

Other potential threats include

"combat training and actual combat experience for thousands of jihadists on the footsteps of Europe," Stavridis said.

A senior Western envoy in Baghdad echoed Stavridis' warning, saying that jihadist volunteers from Europe, America, Australia and other western nations fighting in Syria could mount terrorist attacks when they return to their home countries.

"You'll have problems with such people who are radicalized and who will also come back highly trained in violent actions," said the envoy, who spoke on the usual condition of anonymity.

Although NATO has not been directly involved in the Syrian and Iraqi conflicts, the alliance has deployed six batteries of Patriot missiles to southern Turkey to defend the country from possible strikes from neighboring Syria.

Commenting on warnings, Jacqueline L. Hazelton, a professor of strategy and policy at the U.S. Naval War College, noted that European nations had reason to be alarmed that the conflicts were radicalizing some of their Muslims.

Between 1,200 and 1,700 young European Muslim volunteers have traveled to Syria to join the jihadist forces, The Associated Press reported in December, citing statistics compiled by European governments.

"The Europeans need to go on defense on this one," Hazelton said. "They face an intelligence and a law enforcement problem as these radicalized youth begin to return home."

Hazelton also warned that framing the conflicts as a grand religious war overlooks the political and material interests at play.

"We are also seeing individual fighters and groups battling over earthly power and earthly resources and against earthly threats," Hazelton said. "The fighting among jihadis in Syria is a great example of rivalries over power and resources trumping shared faith.'

lekic.slobodan@stripes.com

Chinese navy begins drills in South China Sea

The Associated Press

BEIJING - Chinese naval vessels including an island landing ship began drills Monday in the South China Sea, where China and several other nations are

locked in territorial disputes. Two destrovers and China's largest amphibious landing craft started the exercises after sailing from the naval base on the southern island province of Hainan, the official Xinhua News Agency said. The ships also boast three helicopters and a company of marines.

Xinhua quoted Cmdr. Jiang

Weilie as saying the drills would focus on integrated combat missions involving ships, submarines and aircraft, suggesting other units may also be involved.

China has moved sharply to assert its claim to nearly the entire South China Sea and its island groups, frequently dispatching patrol vessels to challenge foreign ships and demanding that other nations obtain its permission to fish in the area.

The Philippines, Taiwan, Vietnam. Malaysia and Brunei also claim the entire sea or parts of it. Late last year, China dis-patched its first aircraft carrier and accompanying ships to the South China Sea for sea trials. One of the ships turned to block a U.S. ship shadowing the flotilla, forcing it to take action to avoid a collision

Breast cancer challenges Pakistan taboos

By Asif Shahzad The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD - In Pakistan, a country where breast cancer kills more women than terrorist attacks, an awareness group couldn't even say the word "breast" while talking at a university about mammograms and how to check for lumps.

They had to use the euphemism "cancer of women" to discuss a disease often shrouded in social stigma in this majority Muslim nation.

One in nine women in Pakistan will face breast cancer during her life, with the country itself having the highest rate of the dis-ease across Asia, according to the breast cancer awareness group PinkRibbon, oncologists and other aid groups.

Yet discussing it remains taboo in a conservative, Islamic culture where the word breast is associated with sexuality instead of health and many view it as immoral for women to go to the hospital for screenings or discuss it even within their family. Now, women like breast cancer survivor

and prominent Pakistani politician Fehmida Mirza and groups are trying to draw attention to the disease and break the silence surrounding it.

"There's nothing to be shy about it," Mirza told The Associated Press in a recent interview. "No woman, no woman should die of ignorance and negligence.

No national database tracks breast cancer statistics, but people who combat the disease say it kills nearly 40,000 women every year in Pakistan. That's about the same number as in the U.S., though Pakistan only has 180 million residents, compared with 313 million U.S. residents.

With a health care system in shambles and more young women getting the disease, breast cancer rates are expected to only get worse. World Health Organization official Shahzad Aalam in Pakistan said it was difficult to determine the exact magnitude, but that the disease is rampant.

"It is the leading cancer killer among women," Aalam said

Among Pakistani women, there is very

little knowledge about the disease. A study done at Rawalpindi General Hospital about breast cancer awareness among 600 women found nearly 70 percent totally ignorant of the disease, while 88 percent did not know about breast self-exams and 68 percent did not understand the significance of finding a lump in the breast.

"If women are being diagnosed with breast cancer, they don't even share the news with their family members," said Omar Aftab, who heads PinkRibbon in Pakistan, the group that arranged the university presentation at which organizers couldn't say "breast."

Another challenge is Pakistan's abysmal health care sector, which is starved for money, the latest technology and drugs. Oncologist Saira Hasan, of Shifa International Hospital in Islamabad, said most major hospitals lack a screening center or mammogram facility. Many patients first go to a traditional healer, and by the time they visit a reputable doctor, the disease is often too far advanced to treat. Hasan said.



A Pakistani woman listens to an October lecture in Islamabad that was organized by the breast cancer awareness group PinkRibbon.



Domestic helpers and their supporters shout slogans while holding pictures of abused Indonesian maid Erwiana Sulistyaningsih during a protest in Hong Kong on Sunday.

Hong Kong arrests woman in Indonesian maid abuse case

The Associated Press

HONG KONG - Hong Kong police said they have arrested a woman accused of beating her Indonesian maid in a case that has triggered outrage over its alleged brutality

The maid's case drew attention after photos started circulating among Indonesians in Hong Kong of her injuries, showing the woman's face, hands and legs covered with scabs and lacerations and blackened skin around her feet.

A migrant workers' union in Hong Kong said the maid, who arrived in May last year, was tortured by her employers on a daily basis and forced to wear a diaper.

She was allowed to return to her home country earlier this month after her injuries prevented her from working and was given the equivalent of about \$9 by her employer, according to the union. Police released few details of

the arrest ahead of a news briefing on Monday evening.

Four Hong Kong police officers

headed to Indonesia on Monday to investigate the case.

Police said they received a complaint Sunday from a former maid who also complained of being beaten by the same employer, but it wasn't clear for which case the employer was arrested.

The arrest came a day after thousands of maids and their supporters protested in Hong Kong over the case, which is the latest to stoke fury over poor treatment of the city's 312,000 foreign domestic helpers, most of them young women Indonesians account for about half of Hong Kong's foreign maids; Filipinos make up most of the rest.

In a similar case last year, a couple was imprisoned for torturing their Indonesian maid with a hot iron, a paper cutter and a bicycle chain.

Amnesty International said in a report in November that foreign maids working in Hong Kong are vulnerable to widespread abuse and exploitation.

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Where are details on NSA reforms?

ince last spring, the country has engaged in a sharp and some-times overheated debate about the National Security Agency. On Friday, President Barack Obama took a step back and offered a usefully balanced view. He also proposed some reforms, most of which pointed in the right direction, but some of which were less useful because they were vague.

NSA analysts have "an extraordinarily difficult job, one in which actions are second-guessed, success is unreported and failure can be catastrophic," he said. They know that if another 9/11 or massive cyberattack occurs, they will be asked, by Congress and the media, why they failed to connect the dots." They have been doing this job without any known abuse of nower.

None of this is news, but it was valuable - to the country and undoubtedly to the people who do this work — to hear the president say so.

Obama also rightly paid respect to both sides of the debate. Those who defend the

status quo "are not dismissive of civil lib-erties," he said. By the same token, "those who are troubled by our existing programs are not interested in repeating the tragedy of 9/11." Again not groundbreaking, perhaps, but important for the president to

Americans send sensitive personal information over electronic media every day that computers can easily gather and crank through. This is not the world in which foreign intelligence policy was established in the 1970s, nor even when lawmakers reviewed it in the past decade. People will naturally feel uneasy about what government can quickly learn about them and will demand limits.

"The challenge is getting the details right, and that's not simple," the president said.

That much is apparent from the reforms the president proposed, which attempt to strike a better balance between these competing equities, but which lack critical specifics. The president said he favors new rules restricting the collection, warehousing and use of Americans' communications picked up under surveillance authorities that are supposed to be aimed abroad. But he punted the formulation of those rules to the director of national intelligence and the attorney general. Obama endorsed eliminating the government's bulk collection of phone records while preserving its capability to learn from those records. but he didn't man out how that will work He asked lawmakers to create a panel of attorneys who could argue "significant" cases independently of the government before the secretive Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act court, but he didn't explain who would decide which cases were 'significant."

Missing entirely was any reference to needed reforms to cordon off Americans' data stored on cloud services such as email and online word processors, to which badly outdated federal law fails to afford common protections. Also missing was a discussion of how much the NSA should be meddling with Internet encryption standards, about which U.S. tech companies care deeply.

The president struck a productive tone on Friday. But it will take a lot more time. it seems, to engage in the unsimple task of filling in the details.

Adults should be free to risk smoking pot

By KATHLEEN PARKER

verybody's doing it — confessing their youthful, pot-smoking ways so here goes. I don't remember.

Kidding, kidding. Anyone over 30 recognizes the old adage: If you remember the 60s, you weren't there. Nyuk-nyuk-nyuk.

It is true that marijuana smoking tends to affect one's short-term memory, but the good news is that, while stoned, one does relatively little worth remembering. At least that's my own recollection.

So, yes, I toked, too. This doesn't mean anyone else should, and I haven't in decades, but our debate might have more value if more of us were forthcoming. Would I have written this

when my children were voung? Probably not, I was furious when an Episcopal priest, while speaking to my son's then-fifth-grade class about his '60s experience, shared that he had dropped acid in college. My concern then was the same as parents' now: If a priest (or a columnist) can drop, smoke, drink and become an accomplished adult, how do you tell your children that it's bad for them?

And then there's the question all parents dread: "Mom, did you ever ...?"

Mom: "Absolutely not."

The correct answer to all such questions is that any drug, including alcohol, is bad for children, hence a drinking age, even if many ignore it. Children's brains aren't fully formed and they are not yet aware of the dangers that accompany imnaired judgment.

Mind-altering chemicals are bad for adults, too, if abused. But adults at least can make informed choices. Besides, who knows? Maybe I was supposed to become the secretary of state.

Among columnists confessing are The New York Times' David Brooks, who voiced his objections to legalization, and my Washington Post colleague Ruth Marcus, who noted parental concerns and her own reluctance to endorse legalization. This isn't hypocrisy, which I embrace in the service of civilization, so much as perspectives developed through maturity and experience. Though I respect their views and share

their concerns, I come down on the other side. My long-standing position is that marijuana should be decriminalized if not made legal. Regulate and tax the tar out of evil weed of "Reefer Madness." How much better to have dedicated our resources to education and treatment rather than. through prohibition, to empowering criminals and cartels, not to mention ruining young lives with "criminal" records. I came to this position not when I was a

college student, a time when inhaling pot was a consequence of breathing the ambient air, but when I was the law-abiding, straight-arrow, tough-loving mother of a teenager. Suffice to say, I became aware that marijuana use was common among teens of all hues and stripes.

I couldn't imagine then or now that children might be labeled criminals for behaviors that mostly required parental attention. This should not be construed to mean I recommend not use, certainly not by minors.

Marijuana isn't necessarily harmless - abuse is abuse — but adults should be able to consume it without fear of legal repercussions, just as we consume alcohol. Even though today's weed is much stronger than the stuff we used to smoke, its use is rarely as consequential as alcohol can be. Stoners might become overinvolved in the microscopic ecosystem of tree bark, but they're unlikely to shoot up a bar over a pool game.

I quit smoking pot because it bored me. I'm a caffeinated sort. happiest on Monday mornings when everyone is back to business, and I'm on deadline. Give me coffee, or give me

death.

Having given up nearly everything that made getting out of bed worthwhile, I am

it, please, but let's stop pretending that pot consumers are nefarious denizens of the underworld. Among those who enjoy a recreational smoke are the folks selling you a house, golfing on the ninth hole and probably an editor or two here and there. The "war on drugs" (beware govern-

ment domestic wars) hasn't made a dent in the popularity of pot. Nor, after decades of common use, has it been proved to be the

healthier, happier, more productive - and have discovered that life is not, in fact, short. But both my current abstinence and the indulgences I once enjoyed (and may again, if my cocktail-stoop buddies have any say) were my own. My decisions, my responsibility, my consequences. As they should be — for marijuana as

Parker is a member of The Washington Post Writers Group.

OPINION

Save the black rhino? Start by not shooting it

By Carla Hall Los Angeles Times

here are so many things wrong about the Dallas Safari Club's Iudicrous auction of a permit to raise money for conservation of black rhinos. Let's just start with the idea that the club has the temerity to call this effort a "fundraiser," implying some charitable goal when the real goal is to offer a clever way to persuade the Namibians to grant a permit outside their country (which they usually don't do) and get some public relations cover for the safari club. (That has backfired.)

Now, let's move on to the logic behind buying a permit to kill a member of an endangered species — by showering money on efforts to conserve that species. It's like some human sacrifice to mollify the gods and ensure the survival of all the other humans.

A quick look at the numbers: Early 20thcentury European hunters essentially slaughtered these majestic beasts, one of the world's oldest living mammals — what the international animal protection group World Wildlife Fund calls "a living fossil." By the end of the 1960s, there were 70,000 of them on the African continent. Poaching (each animal has two and sometimes three ivory tusks) and habitat loss has whittled their population today down to about 4,800 across their entire African range. Almost 2,000 of them are in Namibia.

Even though these animals are protected under a number of international treaties, very limited hunting of them is allowed by law. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora grants Namibia an



Protestors gather on Jan. 11 near the Dallas Convention Center where the Dallas Safari Club auctioned off the right to shoot and kill a black rhinoceros in the African patient of Neurithia

annual export quota of five hunted black rhinos.

I'm not particularly happy with the fact that any hunting is allowed in that country. But even if it is, I do not believe the Dallas Safari Club should be selling a permit to hunt, even in the name of conservation. It sends the message that trophy hunting — and that's what this is — is humane and justifiable if it's offset by some charitable act. The club has said the winning hunter will be allowed to target only troublesome, aggressive older males terrorizing other animals.

animals.

If there are rhinos that are dangerous to the rest of the population, then killing it is an acceptable act of management. And it should be done by wardens in Namibia, not

trophy-seeking recreational hunters. Just as troubling in all this is that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which generally does not allow the import of endangered animals from outside the country, could grant an exception for this hunter. It should not. Denying an import permit would stop this. Hunters want to bring their kill back with them as trophies.

The winner of the auction is Corey Knowlton, who paid \$350,000 for the right to hunt. Knowlton, an experienced hunter who leads hunting expeditions, lives in North Texas. The publicity generated by the auction has focused a harsh light on him. Knowlton has told media outlets that he has had death threats directed at him and his family. That's horrible. The issue here is about halting killing, not redirecting it.

Knowlton recently told a media outlet that he simply wanted to experience a black rhino. "If I go over there and shoot it or not shoot it, it's beyond the point."

So I'd like to issue this plea to Knowlton: Don't shoot it. You've made the donation to a good cause. Now, follow through with your own personal conservation effort and save one endangered rhino from being your trophy.

For Knowlton and for all of us, experiencing a black rhino should be about glimpsing it in the wild or at a zoo. The only thing we should be using to shoot it is a really good camera.

Detroit's hubris on display as annual auto show returns

By Edward Niedermeyer Bloomberg News

etroit, as the locals never tire of saying, is back. After several expears of uncharacteristic self-awareness and restraint following the auto bailout, domestic automakers returned the annual North American Auto Show to classic form this year, with a display that would not have been out of place in the heyday of the Motor City.

Recently freed from government ownership, General Motors kicked off the quintessential company-town party with a bang, parading a phalanx of Corvettes through Detroit's grity urban core and sweeping both the North American Car and Truck Of The Year awards with the muscle-bound Stingray and the Silverado pickup.

The predictability of those picks was underscored by the Silverado's huge engine-fire-related recall just days before the announcement, as it struggles to command a price premium over older competitors. (Sales were down 16 percent in December, while the Ford F-series flew off lots.) Now, as in Motown's glory days, reflexive praise of any new Corvette or domestic-brand full-size truck is de rigeur. Luckily for voters, the truck troika of Ford, Chevy and Dodge Ram is only too happy to rotate launch years to keep any overly challenging choices from their ballots.

Štill, even among the big trucks, the last bastion of Detroit's oligopoly (and accompanying double-digit profit margins), there were signs of long-overdue change. Ford's debuted a partially aluminum-bodied replacement to its F-150, promising sig-

nificant improvements in fuel economy for its top-selling vehicle. In the hidebound world of full-size trucks, the idea of replacing steel with a lighter metal is something of a mind-blower.

Predictably, not everyone welcomed the innovation. Former GM Chairman Bob Lutz spoke for the traditionalists, questioning whether rural F-150 buyers might not switch to a "steet Chevy." In response to Ford Chief Executive Officer Alan Mulally's vision of aluminum-bodied vehicles across Ford's lineup, a steel industry group compared aluminum to GM's ill-fated flirtation with plastic body panels in the 1980s and '90s. The old ways of doing business in Detroit do not go away without a fight.

Unfortunately, the relative strength of America's domestic car market is helping fend off some of the pressure to take innovative risks. As Europe's market retracts and growth in BRIC markets slows, the United States is re-emerging as the industry's key source of profits. Though no longer the world's largest market for autos, the U.S. still has an insatiable taste for new ones, showing China-like double-digit growth last year in sales of high-margin trucks and luxury cars.

The flood of new luxury models at the Detroit show—a Lexus with more than 450 horsepower; a Cadillac coupe designed to compete with BMW and Audi; a retro-looking Porsche 911 Targa—indicated just how eager the world's automakers are to tap into America's post-recession retail therapy.

Profits from those luxury vehicles may keep the good times rolling, but concerns that style may be trumping substance can't be ignored. One of the only produc-



Tesla official Jermone Guillen speaks near a Model S at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit on Jan. 14.

tion-ready mass-market cars to debut last week, the Chrysler 200, drew praise for its sleek looks but was also criticized for its cramped back seat. Otherwise, Honda's redesigned Fit was the show's sole nod to the reality that some buyers just want an affordable, practical appliance of a car.

This departure from fundamentals is troubling, considering that the good times won't last forever. After all, the major breakthrough underlying the luxury car gold rush isn't some new seat warming technology or the all-electric Tesla Model S, but financial innovation. Auto loans have surpassed credit cards as the second-largest consumer debt category, and with the mortgage market remaining weak, banks and investors are flocking to auto-loanbacked securities. As a result, auto-loan terms are getting longer, lending standards are declining and the subprime market is burgeoning.

At least half of all recorded sales of popular luxury models such as the BMW 3 Series are in fact leases. With wages and employment stagnating even as easy credif fuels luxury car sales, it's clear that the profits fueling the auto industry's high times are built on a tenuous foundation. The car business has long been highly cyclical, to use the economist's euphemism for downright bipolar, either generating huge profits or epic losses.

Automakers get into trouble when the heady highs blind them to the inevitable downturn and distract them from the fundamentals of their business. This basic dynamic was responsible for Detroit's crash in the 1970s, and repeated itself most recently when the great SUV boom came to a shuddering halt with the gas price spikes of 2008. Surveying the glittering, high-priced luxury cars dominating the Detroit Auto Show, and seeing the once-humbled automakers returned to chest-thumping form, it's hard not to worry that the industry is falling into its perennial trap.

Edward Niedermeyer is an auto industry consultant and former editor of the blog The Truth About Cars.

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Penitentiary tales to tell

lowa prison's grim history might be tourist draw

By RYAN J. FOLEY The Associated Press

FORT MADISON, Iowa he Iowa State Penitentiary stands like an ancient stone fortress on a bluff over the Mississippi River, ringed by castlelike guard towers and sheathed in chain link and razor wire. Built in 1839, seven years before Iowa became a state, the compound is the oldest operating prison west of the Mississippi and as unwelcoming a place as you can imagine.

Soon, a place people have long wanted to avoid may try to become the opposite: an attraction for visitors. After Iowa's most dangerous criminals leave next spring, some local officials hope that history buffs, ghost hunters and the just plain curious will show up to replace them.

Around the country, state prisons built in the 19th and 20th centuries are closing due to rising maintenance costs, security concerns and general obsolescence. But cities eager to fill the economic gap believe they can capitalize on something that most tourist sites lack: a morbid past.

"Forts historically were built to keep people out. Now we want to swing the tide on that and let people in to see what's gone on for so many years behind these walls," said Iowa State Penitentiary Warden Nick Ludwick

The closed Missouri State Penitentiarv was on track to draw a record 20,000 visitors last year until mold discovered in September forced a temporary cancellation of tours, which take guests to the old gas chamber where 40 inmates were put to death. Storytelling tours exploit the history of Cellblock 7 at Michigan State Prison, where doctor Jack Kevorkian once stayed. The Ohio State Reformatory offers a 45-minute nighttime tour that promises a 'haunted prison experience.'

Those attractions can't match Alcatraz, where nearly 1.5 million visitors annually take cruises to see the famous island garrison in San Francisco Bay where Al Capone and Machine Gun Kelly served time, but they offer something distinctly different than the Victorian houses, old grain mills and museums that are historical sites in

many tourism-hungry towns.

"There's quite a lot of interesting ac tivity going on with historic prissaid Tracy Huling, a fellow at the Open Society Foundation who is studying how communities are turning closed prisons into museums, apartments, hotels, art studios and film locations. "Done well, they can serve as an economic driver."

With 174 years of history, the Iowa peni-tentiary has its share of tales to tell and artifacts to show. There was the inmate who used chloroform to kill a guard in the 1800s, and the 1981 riot in which inmates took workers hostage. In 1963, the prison was the site of a federal execution that became the last for 40 years after the practice was temporarily halted. In 2005, inmates used rope to scale the walls near an unstaffed guard tower, which became the cata-

lyst for the prison's It would closing. also make The prison has the wooden canes a nice zoo. that guards once used and photos of

I'm serious. With all these the gallows where cages.

Lloyd Bennett

convicted murderer right, it could be a big tourism asset for Fort Madison," said city manager Byron Smith, who envisions turning the space into a museum with ghost tours, a dog park and a community center.

The sprawling prison is central to Fort Madison, a working-class town of 11,000 where some residents remember watching movies in the prison auditorium and getting their hair cut by inmates. Fort Madison was called "Pen City" because of the penitentiary and the Sheaffer Pen factory. That moniker hasn't been used much since

Residents were thrilled when the state decided to build the \$130 million, high-tech new prison

the factory closed in 2008. and keep 440 jobs — down the road, but some are wary of the state's offer to transfer ownership

dozens of inmates

"If we could do it

were hanged.



Warden Nick Ludwick stands in an inmate's cell at the Iowa State Penitentiary in Fort Madison, Iowa. Officials hope the facility attracts tourists after it is closed next spring.

prison to the city, fearing it could become a money pit. The prison would need renovations and has shaky foundations that might require

some buildings to be demolished. Some inmates also are wary of the move, sad to leave a place where they know every nook and cranny. They say they will miss the clanging of the metal cell bars and the jingling of guards' keys when they're replaced by sliding doors and swipe cards. They could turn it into a museum,

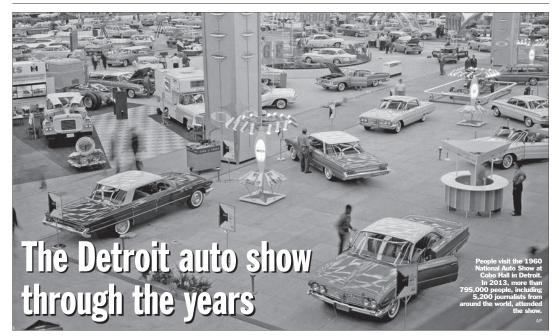
said Lloyd Bennett, 67, a convicted murder who has been confined there for 22 years. "It would also make a nice zoo. I'm serious. With all these cages." For others, the closure can't come

soon enough. People are chomping at the bit for this thing to happen," said Steve Bryant, of the Keokuk Paranormal Society, who wants to turn the prison into a haunted hotel.





SHIFTING GEARS



The Associated Press

DETROIT — The Detroit auto show, which opened to the public on Saturday after a week of media and industry previews, dates to 1907, when a group of car dealers held a show in a city park.

The show was largely a regional event showcasing Detroit automakers until 1989, when the name was changed to the North American International Auto Show and Toyota and Nissan used it to introduce their new luxury brands.

The annual event has since grown to be one of most important shows on the auto industry's calendar. Last year, more than 795,000 people attended the show. This year, at least 50 new vehicles will make their debut.

Here's a gallery of images of the auto show through the years.



RICHARD SHEINWALD/AP

Workers roll a Mercury Cyclone concept car up a ramp into its display area in 1990.





The new-for-1989 multi-purpose-vehicle Trans Sport is shown in this photo provided by Pontiac.



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AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Woman charged with stealing massager

ELIZABETHTON -Police said an eastern Tennessee woman was charged with breaking into a home and stealing an antique pelvic massager and leaving her wallet behind.

Police said Tamatha R. Blevins, 45. of Elizabethton, took the "plastic or latex" antique from a home on Dec. 27. She was arrested on Wednesday.

The homeowner told police someone forced open the back door of the house and took the massager, a U.S. Navy SEAL tactical knife and a glass jar contain-ing more than \$500 in loose paper and coin money.

The homeowner said he found a wallet with Blevins' driver's license and Social Security card inside along with two credit cards and a checkbook in Blevins'

Second fire guts house known for pot growing

TACOMA — A Tacoma house was gutted following a blaze that firefighters suspect may have been sparked by an illegal marijuana growing operation. It's the second fire in three years at the home where pot has been cultivated. The fire broke out Friday af-

ternoon. No one was injured and no one was at the home when fire crews arrived. Once inside, fire crews found

about 100 plants in a detached garage and are trying to determine whether electrical modifications made to support the growing caused the fire.

In 2011, a fire broke out at the same home. In that episode, investigators found 365 plants and a woman who lived there said she didn't pay rent in exchange for taking care of the plants.

Bowhunters to shoot Asian carp on river

EAST PEORIA - Bowhunters are being invited to shoot as many Asian carp as possible in a competition planned for July on the Illinois River in central Illinois

Organizers are planning the first Flying Fish Festival and Bowfishing Tournament for July 11 and 12 with an East Peoria sporting goods store as the lead sponsor.

The event will offer cash prizes for the bowhunter who shoots the most of the invasive fish, some of which can leap high into the air if they are startled by boat motors. Asian carp dishes will be prepared and available at stands along the river.

The tournament will charge \$120 per boat for up to four participants, Bowhunters, also known as bowfishers, use archery equipment to shoot fish.

Mom is charged after girls are tattooed

RUSTBURG - A Virginia woman and two others have been charged with THE CENSUS

The weight in tons of illegally harvested oysters that have been seized in northwest Florida. Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission officers in Carrabelle issued citations Monday to five people for 20 misdemeanors and two boating infractions. The oysters were harvested from areas off Apalachicola that are closed until summer. They were returned to the bay so that they could continue to grow.





Above: Bill Cunningham, of Madisonville, Ky., checks in for finals judging Friday with one of his Show King pigeons at the Grand National Pigeon Show in Oklahoma City. Left: Cunningham cradles one of his pigeons.

malicious wounding and child abuse after her two children were tattooed and attempts then were made to remove the tattoos.

Melissa Delp, 35, and her boyfriend, Daniel Janney, 32, were charged Friday.

According to a search warrant, the pair were charged after Jannev attempted to remove the tattoos from Delp's daughters with a

hot razor blade.
Campbell County sheriff's
Maj. L.T. Guthrie said the girls were in the care of family friend Alexander Edwards on Dec. 22 when Edwards is suspected of tattooing them without consent. Edwards also is charged with abduction.

Man accused of stealing defibrillator

NEW YORK - Police said a New Jersey man was arrested for the second time in as many months on suspicion of stealing a defibrillator from a subway station.

A spokesman for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey police department said Friday that Michael Howard. 20. was arrested Thursday aboard a Port Authority Trans-Hudson railroad train at the 33rd Street station in Manhattan.

Spokesman Joe Pentangelo said officers believe Howard, of Newark, took the defibrillator from the 23rd Street station. He's been charged with possession of stolen property.

Pentangelo said Howard was arrested last month on suspicion of stealing a medical device from the PATH station in Newark N.J.

Grandmother's trial set in suspected drug plot

PHOENIX - An April 17 trial has been set for a Texas woman accused of getting her 9-year-old granddaughter to plant drugs in her son-in-law's car in Arizona so the grandmother could gain full-time custody of the child.

San Juanita Carabaial, 59, of Ferris, Texas, has pleaded not guilty to a charge of involving a child in a drug offense.

Police in Gilbert said Carabajal gave the child several packets containing 4 grams of cocaine in October and told her where to put them in her father's vehicle.

Carabajal also is accused of telling her granddaughter to tell people about the drugs at her elementary school and to show one of the packets to a teacher.

Old military ordnance discovered in home

SPRING HILL - Authorities said a woman going through her deceased parents' belongings at a Tampa Bayarea home found what appeared to be old military ordnance.

The Hernando County Sheriff's Office reported that Deborah Medolo was going through the Spring Hill home Friday when she found the device. It was estimated to be between 8 and 9 inches long

Deputies restricted access to the area temporarily for safety reasons.

A bomb-disposal team reponded and removed the device. Officials couldn't immediately determine whether the ordnance was live

City considers fines to curb barking dogs

LIHUE - As Kauai considers new restrictions against dogs that bark too much. some residents worry the rules could fuel arguments between neighbors.

The Kauai County Council is weighing a bill that would fine owners if their dogs bark "continuously or incessantly" for 10 minutes or intermittently over 30 minutes.

The fines, ranging from \$50 for a first offense to \$200 to \$500 for a third offense, would be levied if barking doesn't improve following a letter and educational material sent by the Kauai Humane Society.

Police: Man breaks into store, seeks own arrest

LEXINGTON - Police in Lexington said a man broke into a store and called officers with a request to come get him.

Spokeswoman Sherelle Roberts said that Ferdi Demiri, 26, wasn't armed and offered no resistance while being cuffed.

Roberts said Demiri broke in the door of the Redi Mart about 1 a.m. Friday and called 911 while inside the store.

Roberts said Demiri told officers he'd become stressed out after an argument with family members and wanted to go to jail

Demri had been bailed out of jail by Saturday morning.

From wire reports

FACES

First and final laughs

Shuffling late-night hosts reveal guest lists

By Yvonne Villarreal Los Angeles Times

t really is happening. If there was ever any doubt that NBC would actually go through with the restructuring of its late-night block, let this stand as hard proof:

While promoting his new position as "Tonight Show" host Sunday at the Television Critics Association press tour in Pasadena, Calif., Jimmy Fallon revealed the first guests of his Feb. 17 debut: Will Smith and musical guest U2.

On the flip side, Jay Leno will once more wrap his run as late-night kingpin — a gig that has totaled more than two decades — on Feb. 6 with first-ever guest Billy Crystal returning to send out Leno, along with musical guest Garth Brooks.

Still not a believer? Here's more proof: Seth Meyers, who will take over Fallon's "Late Night" spot, announced later on Sunday that fellow "SNL" alum and NBC top dog Amy Poehler will be his first guest.

During his session, Fallon said that not much

will change from the offbeat style of his "Late Night" show as he makes the transition to the earlier time period, So those click-worthy videos, like last week's bit wherein he and Bruce Springsteen poked fun at New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie's recent traffic jam scandal, won't be falling by the wayside.

In speaking of the bit, Fallon said he gawe Christie a heads-up that he re-cruited Springsteen, an idol of Christie's, for the routine — because he had been a guest on the show and because he knew it might not go down easy with the governor.

"First of all, the bit was funny. I knew that," Fallon explained. "You have to go with that first when making these decisions. Secondly, I let Chris Christie know we were doing it. And I said, "The silver lining is Bruce Springsteen says your name."

Then a pause.

"I haven't heard back yet."



'Ride Along' cruising toward January record

The Associated Press

"Ride Along" arrived in first place at the weekend box office.

The buddy cop comedy featuring Kevin Hart and Lee Cube debuted with \$41.2 million, according to studio estimates Sunday. The strong opening for "Ride Along" marks the biggest debut for a film released during Martin Luther King Jr. Day weekend and puts it on track to top the \$40.1 million record set by the 2008 monster movie "Cloverfield" for the biggest opening of January.

"Ride Ålong" is the first starring role for Hart, whose box-office status has been on the rise since the success of his 2013 stand-up film "Kevin Hart: Let Me Explain" and memorable stints in such movies as "Think Like a Man," "This Is the End" and "Grudge Match."

In second place, the Navy SEAL drama "Lone Survivor" starring Mark Wahlberg, Taylor Kitsch, Emile Hirsch and Ben Foster earned \$23.2 million in its second weekend in wide release, bringing its domestic total to \$74 million.

The animated film "The Nut Job," featuring the voices of Will Arnett and Brendan Fraser, opened in third place with \$20.6 million.

The weekend's other major new releases, the spy series reboot "Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit" (\$17.2 million) and the horror flick "Devil's Due" (\$8.5 million), respectively opened in fourth and seventh place.

Producers pick '12 Years a Slave,' 'Gravity'

For the past six years, every feature film chosen by the Pro-

ducers Guild of America for its top honor has gone on to win the best-picture prize at the Academy Awards. Sunday night, Steve Mc-Queen's historical epic "12 Years a Slave" and Alfonso Cuaron's space odyssey "Gravity" tied for the guild's highest honor.

While an Oscar tie is unlikely, the rare PGA split keeps the Academy Awards race wide open in one of the tightest three-way battles in years, with "American Hustle" also receiving much awards-season attention.

Other trophies presented Sunday night in Beverly Hills, Calif, included "Frozen" for animated feature, "We Steal Secrets: The Story of WikiLeaks" for documentary film, "Behind the Candelabra" for television movie or miniseries, "Breaking Bad" for TV drama series and "Modern Family" for TV comedy series.

George Michael's new album due March 17

After a spell of making headlines for mishaps rather than music, George Michael is coming back with a new album. Michael announced Monday that his sixth solo album, "Symphonica," is due for release March 17.

It includes his own songs as well as covers including Nina Simone's "My Baby Just Cares for Me."

Michael recorded the album during a 2011-2012 tour that was interrupted when he contracted life-threatening pneumonia.

NBC will do live remake of 'Peter Pan' musical

Following up on the success of "The Sound of Music" last month, NBC said Sunday that it will broadcast a live version of "Peter



Universal Pictures/AP

Kevin Hart, left, and Ice Cube star in the mismatched buddy comedy "Ride Along," which made \$41.2 million its first weekend.

Pan" in December.

It will be produced by the same team, Craig Zadan and Neil Meron, that made "The Sound of Music" with Carrie Underwood. The live musical reached 19 million viewers, surprising even NBC entertainment president Robert Greenblatt.

No cast members were announced on Sunday.

"Peter Pan" opened on Broadway in 1954.

Director Cuaron teams with J.J. Abrams for TV

Oscar-nominated director Alfonso Cuaron is trying television for the first time, teaming with producer J.J. Abrams on a new series.

The two have known each other for about 20 years.

Cuaron concocted the idea for "Believe," debuting March 10 on NBC, while shooting "Gravity" with Sandra Bullock and George Clooney. He contacted Abrams, who came aboard as co-executive producer for the series starring Delroy Lindo, Kyle MacLachlan and Jamie Chung.

The series revolves around a 10-year-old girl with supernatural powers who's pursued by sinister forces

'Parks & Recreation' renewed for 7th season

The future is looking bright at NBC for Golden Globe winner Amy Poehler, but not so much for Michael J. Fox.

NBC entertainment president Robert Greenblatt said Sunday that Poehler's "Parks & Recreation" will be back for a seventh season next fall. NBC has also committed to making a pilot for a comedy about older people that Poehler is writing.

Greenblatt, at a news conference, made no official comment about the prospects of "The Michael J. Fox Show" beyond this year. He said NBC might move the sitcom around its schedule, but he doesn't know if that will help its poor ratings.

Other news

■ Tamela Mann won seven awards, including the top honor artist of the year, at the Stellar Gospel Music Awards on Jan. 19 in Nashville. Kirk Franklin's "Take Me to the King" was named song of the year, and Tye Tribbett took male vocalist of the year. Tasha Cobb, Hezekiah Walker and Anthony Brown & Group Therapy won three awards apiece.

SAG Awards favor 'American Hustle'

David O. Russell's "American Hustle" took the Screen Actors Guild Awards' top honor for outstanding cast on Saturday night beating out Steve McQueen's acclaimed "12 Years a Slave." Because actors make up the largest branch of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the SAG Awards (which last year picked "Argo") are considered one of the best indicators of the Oscars.

The night's acting winners
— Matthew McConaughey ("Dallas Buyers Club"), Cate Blanchett
("Blue Jasmine"), Lupita Nyong'o
("12 Years a Slave") and Jared
Leto ("Dallas Buyers Club")—
are each probably the favorites of
their categories.

In television awards, "Breaking Bad" took honors for outstanding dramatic cast and for lead actor (Bryan Cranston). The win was Cranston's second lead actor SAG Award. He also won a Golden Globe this year, and has won three Emmys in years past, for the role of meth kingpin Walter White.

Two big-screen veterans won awards for TV films: Michael Douglas for HBO's Liberace drama "Behind the Candelabra," and Helen Mirren for the biopic "Phil Spector," also on HBO.

Julia Louis-Dreyfus, a mainstay at recent award shows, both for her acclaimed HBO series "Veep" and the romantic comedy "Enough Said," won a SAG trophy for female actor in a comedy series for "Veep."

The ABC sitcom "Modern Family" won for ensemble in a comedy series, and took the male actor in a comedy series honor for Ty Burrell.

SAG's lifetime achievement award was given to Rita Moreno, the 81-year-old "West Side Story" actress whose career has spanned Broadway, television and music.

From The Associated Press

BUSINESS/WEATHER

USPS outlets at Staples anger unions

BY SAM HANANEL The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The opening of Postal Service retail centers in dozens of Staples stores around the country is being met with threats of protests and boycotts by the agency's unions.

The new outlets are staffed by Staples employees, not postal workers, and labor officials say that move replaces well-paying union jobs with low-wage, nonunion workers.

"It's a direct assault on our jobs and on public postal ser-vices," said Mark Dimondstein. president of the 200,000-member American Postal Workers Union.

The dispute comes as the financially struggling Postal Service continues to form partnerships with private companies and looks to cut costs and to boost revenues. The deal with Staples began as a pilot program in November at 84 stores in California, Georgia, Massachusetts and Pennsylvacustomers to buy stamps, to send packages or to use Priority and certified mail.

Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe said the program has nothing to do with privatization and everything to do with customer service and driving up demand for the agency's products.

The privatization discussion is a ruse." Donahoe said in an interview. "We have no interest in privatizing the Postal Service. We are looking to grow our business to provide customer convenience to postal products."

Staples spokeswoman rie McElwee referred questions about union concerns to the Postal Service. She said the company "continually tests new products and services to better meet the needs of our customers

Union leaders fear that if the Staples program is successful, the Postal Service will want to expand it to more than 1,500 of the company's other stores. That could siphon work and customers away from nearby brick-andmortar post offices, taking jobs from postal workers and even leading traditional post offices to close

Union leaders have been visiting Staples stores to meet with managers, asking them to share the union's displeasure with upper management.

Dimondstein asked to meet with Staples CEO Ronald Sargent, who has declined.

The union plans to hold "sustained" protests this month at Staples stores in the San Francisco and San Jose, Calif., area that would be expanded elsewhere. Union officials also are considering how they can exert pressure on Staples shareholders.

"If Staples insists on continuing to refuse to staff those stores with postal workers, we're going to urge people to take their business

elsewhere." Dimondstein said. The union says it's not asking to shut down the program. It wants

employees, not workers hired by Staples. The average postal clerk earns about \$25 per hour, according to the union, plus a generous package of health and retirement benefits. The Staples post office counters are run by nonunion workers often making little more than the minimum wage.

The Postal Service increasingly has looked to work with the private sector to help increase business. In November, it announced a lucrative deal with Amazon to begin package delivery on Sunday.

The agency has struggled for years with declining mail volume, but the lion's share of its financial nlight stems from a 2006 congressional requirement that it make annual \$5.6 billion payments to cover expected health care costs for future retirees. It has defaulted on three of those payments. The Postal Service lost \$5 billion during the past year, though operating revenue rose 1.2 percent.

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Porsche, Cayenne GTS, 2008 \$40500.00 Cayenne GTS with PORSCHE warranty until Aug 2014) for sale in GTS Red, 78.000 miles: US-spec, 405 HP, 4.8L V8 auto. Handles like the sports car that it is. LOADED. PDCC, seat heat, cruise, Alcan-trat leather, dual zone climata sports car that it is. LOADED PDC, seat heat, cruise, Alcantara leather, dual zone climate control. Im second owner. All in-hand, Price neg. Will sell will in-hand, Price neg. Will sell will extra 20° winter tires & wheels, rubber mats, cargo bars, cargo to the control of the

RAV 4 22Toyota, D-CAT 4v4
\$14450.00 EU Spec Garaged,
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smoking vehicle, welf maintained service Instory, MOT 60
13, ABS, Alloy Wheele, Passenogairbag, Electic windows,
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Saturn, Aura, 2007, \$8300.00 66.000 miles, One Owner non-following opinion: automatic transmission: traction, Assist, tall transmission: traction, Assist, tall home remove for Garage and transmission: which the saturation of the saturation with corteasist, and dimming sea view printo with corteasist, and dimming sea view printo with corteasist, and control of the saturation of the satura

Autos for Sale Germany

Toyota, Tacoma SR5, Double Cab, 2011 SR500,000 his less at the common section of the common section sect

Autos for Sale - Germany

Autos for Sale

blue book dalesmith71@hotmail.com

Cil.

rob.macksonhotmail.com
Toyota, Tacoma, 2007
S1900.00 V6, 4WD, 4 door,
TRD Offroad, SRS and Towing
Packages. Power Windows
ocks, Cruise Control, Roof
Rack, Silver Exterior, Gray
Great, Very Good Condition
linside and out. Only 45,000
miles. Supgested NADA value
\$223,775. In Ansbach. Call Eric
015164S1457.

Volvo, C30 , 2009 \$14500.00 T5 Hatchback 2DR, Black, US specs, 1 owner, great condition. dawnsprytegmail.com

Volvo, S 60 T5 2012 \$28000.00 Absolutly full loaded navi rear view camera leather sunroof US spec 01728618505 sreinhold@freenet.de

tained serviče history, MOT 05
45, last service was done 05
43, ABS, Alloy Wheels, Passenger airbag, Electric windowssenger airbag, Electric windowscontrol, Fog lights, Ratio, Side
airbag, Power Steering, Cruise
Control, Traction control Immobilizer Transmission type: Manual transmission Transitions: 6
Speed, 4, Cylinder, Diesel Fuel Volvo, XC 90 - Ocean Race Edition, 2006 \$15555.00 Special Ocean-Race Edition, Euro

Cosan-Race Edition, Euro Specs 2.4 DS Diesel enjoya with 165 HP, great on gast Hadacel leatherseats, manual transmission, Volvo high per-formance sound radio some Character of the control of the Character of the control of the Character of the control of the control of the Character of the control of the control of the Multi-function steering wheel, Motorcycles multi-function steering wheel navigation system as making the control of the cont

completed in August along with a brand new baltery. The bikk will be sold with the current sound of the baltery balter

MINI, Cooper JCW (John Cooper McWeds), 2010 32:300.000 er McWeds), 2010 32:300.000 er McWeds), 2010 32:300.000 er McWeds), 2010 40:300.000 er on Clay Kaseme +491622676445

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Ci. Harley Davidson, Ultra Classic Electra Glide, 2010 \$17500.00 2010 Ultra Classic Electra Glide, Vance and Hines MONSTER VALS, stage 1 Spreamin Ea-gle air cleaner kit, Fairing lower Lock box ki, Touring sadlebsag lid rais with LED brake lights, four-pax accent rail, Booml

Cil.

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sha, FZ8, 2011 \$6500.00 reetFighter !!! Brand New (3weeks old) Power nander Two Brothers Ex-Auto Tuner HID Projecto light with ring Modded X Synthetic Oli K&N filter **F**



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years ago, it's top qualify, the

posts are solid (not hollow

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CB Furniture/Appliances 511

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cuum \$110.00 This is a reless Vacuum, it has has a nd Vacuum in the back for iall areas, 015227269001 im1me.com Furniture/Appliances 511

man Einbaukuche (EBK) (butlin kitchen). Contains an own with glass stove top, dishwasher, Irridge and freezer combo, stove fan, sink and all electrica connections. Plenty of cuptopard space. Nice lite wood finish. Cost \$3700 new, selling for \$1,000. Delivery may be possible. Available in March 2014 robash1981@yahoo.com

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Home Electronics 570

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50 Inch Hilach Projection TV 800,00 The V is in consistent year of the Consistent of the Consistent year of the Consistent of the Consistent Visit of the Consistent of the Consistent with no problem. It has Multi-with no problem. It has Multi-with no problem. It has fall the different channels at one time, video next. Evideo in the Consistent of the Consistent of the Consistent of the Consistent public Montelor Dut, Headphone round and Digital Sound, Fertex of Lordon Consistent of the Consistent Consistent of the Consistent of

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134 1056 Chevy, Camaros

144 105 600 Tro, S. Nesson 15 500

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Autos for Sale

Autos for Sale

148

GMC, Acadia, 2007 \$16800.00 Excellent Running Condition December 2007 \$16800.00 Excellent Running Conditions, 2007 \$16800.00 Excellent Running Conditions, 2007 \$16800.00 Excellent Page 100 \$16800.00 Excellent Running Boards, Show tires, Planting Boards, Planting Boards, Show tires, Planting Boards, Planting Boards, Planting Boards, Planting Boards, Planting Boards, Planting Boards, Planting

Autos for Sale

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Furniture/Appliances 511

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ACROSS

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- 5 Mangy mutt 8 Stitches
- 12 Mayberry moppet
- 13 Past
- 14 Award for 21-Across 15 Stop signal
- 17 McNally's partner
- 18 Weeding tool
- 19 Kampala's country
- 21 Madison Avenue
- type 24 Winter fall
- 25 Lather
- 26 "Impending
- danger" signal
- 30 Blackbird
- 31 Wall art
- 32 Deviate off course
- 33 Detroit team
- 35 Big rig
- 36 Teen's skin woe
- 37 With 38-Across, preemptive attack
- 38 See 37-Across
- 41 Lemieux milieu
- 43 Clara Barton's
- organization
- 48 Initial stake
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- Korea
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- 53 Top-rated

- DOWN 1 Craggy peak
- 2 Gorilla
- 3 Central
- 4 "The Taking of -123"
- 5 Zoo structure
- 6 "That tastes
 - awful!"
- 7 Domed buildings
- 8 Lousy handwriting 9 Verve
- 10 Kite flier's need
- 11 Pop
- 16 Charged bit
- 20 Target
- 21 Somewhere out there
- 22 Finished
- 23 Hotel staffer
- 24 Suit material

- 47 Witness

Answer to Previous Puzzle

26 Second-place finisher

27 Watchful one

28 St. Louis team

31 Rock legend Jagger

29 Nincompoop

34 Restaurant

employee

35 Mountain range

37 Radio watchdog

39 Author Morrison

40 Memory method

44 "Guinness Book"

45 Cry of discovery

46 D.C. address

(Abbr.)

41 Concept

suffix

38 High-five, basically

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1-21 CRYPTOQUIP

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GMASH K S XCUD. Μ OESWW

RGCR'W $H\ S\ -\ R\ S\ A\ K\ M\ J\ C\ R\ M\ L\ J$ Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THAT TRAITOR WHO'S IN THE COOLER GOT WHAT HE DESERVED FOR LISTENING TO THE VOICE OF TREASON.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals S

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SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

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Tennis

Australian Open

Australial Open
Monday
At Melbourne Park
Melbourne, Australia
Pursee Bourne, Australia
Pursee Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Men
Fourth Wound
Grigor Dimitroy (2,2) Bugaria, def. Roerto Bautista Agul, Spain, 6-3, 3-6, 6-2,

6-4. Rafael Nadal (1), Spain, def. Kei Nishi-kori (16), Japan, 7-6 (3), 7-5, 7-6 (3). Andy Murray (4), Britain, def. Stephane Robert, France, 6-1, 6-2, 6-7 (6), 6-2.

6-2. Agnieszka Radwanska (5), Poland, def. Garbine Muguruza, Spain, 6-1, 6-3. **Doubles**

6-4.
Daniel Nestor, Canada, and Nenad Zi-monjic (8), Serbia, def. Mariusz Fyrsten-berg and Marcin Matkowski (9), Poland, 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-3.

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Andrea Allawine Safarova
(7), Czech Republic, def. Madison Reys
and Alison Riske, United States, 6-4, 6-3,
and Caroline Safaron, and Caroline Safaron, and Caroline Safaron, and Abiqual Spears
(8), United States, def. Alize, Cornet and
Caroline Garcia, Fisher
Fish Round
Andrea, Histard, and Ross Hutchins,
Bern Safaron, and Scott Lipsky,
United States, def. Alize, Rossolska, Poland, and Johan Brunstrom, Sweden, 6-3,
and 1-3,
and

land, and Johan Brunstrom, Sweden, 6-3, 6-4.

Second Round
Katarina Srebotnik, Sibvenia, and Mana Ropana (2), India, def Ashleigh Bar-yaranila, California, and Ashleigh Bar-yaranila, California, and Horiston, and Matthew Edward California, and Horiston, and Colin Fleming, Britain, 6-2, 6-2, Kristian Maldeonovic, France, and Daniella, and Colin Fleming, Britain, 6-2, 6-1, 10-4

Deals

Sunday's transactions

ountudy S trainsactions
SASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
NBA — Fined Indiana F David West
SIS.000 for elbowing too Angeles ClipJan. 18 game. Fined Sacramento coach
Michael Malone S25.000 for verbal abuse
of a game official and not proceeding
completion of the Jan. 17 game at Memphis.

nis.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
MONTREAL CANADIENS — Recalled D
athan Beaulieu from Hamilton (AHL).,
COLLEGE
AUBURN — Named Adrian Ghioroaie

TULSA — Named Josh Blankenship quarterback coach.

Golf

Humana Challenge

PGA Sunday p-PGA West. Palmer Course: 6.950 yards. par 72 n-PGA West, Nicklaus Course; 6,924 q-La Quinta Country Club; 7,060 yards, par 72 Fouth round played on the Palmer Course La Quinta, Calif. Purse: \$5.7 million

	Final	
Patrick Reed	63p-63q-63n-71-260	-28
Rvan Palmer	64p-65q-70n-63-262	-26
Zach Johnson	65q-68n-68p-62-263	-25
Justin Leonard	66n-67p-65q-65-263	-25
Brian Stuard	67q-66n-66p-65-264	-24
Bill Haas	65q-66n-67p-67-265	-23
Brendon Todd	65n-63p-68q-69-265	-23
Chad Collins	68n-68p-65q-65-266	-22
Stuart Appleby	66p-69q-67n-65-267	-21
Charlie Beljan	68q-64n-68p-67-267	-21
Ben Crane	70q-64n-65p-68-267	-21
C. Hoffman	64q-66n-66p-71-267	
Russell Knox	65p-70g-67n-66-268	
Matt Every	65n-68p-69q-66-268	
Jerry Kelly	69a-65n-68p-66-268	
Will MacKenzie	67n-66p-66q-69-268	
Matt Jones	66n-67p-66q-69-268	-20
Bre. de Jonge	69q-68n-66p-66-269	-19
Luke Guthrie	69p-67q-67n-66-269	
Scott Langley	69q-68n-65p-67-269	
Keegan Bradley	69q-66n-65p-69-269	-19
James Driscoll	68p-63q-66n-72-269	-19
Webb Simpson	69p-70q-67n-64-270	-18
Charlie Wi	65p-69q-69n-67-270	-18
Rvo Ishikawa	66p-69q-69n-67-271	-17
T.Van Aswegen	69n-67p-67q-68-271	-17
Martin Flores	69p-65a-69n-68-271	-17
J. Wagner	72p-66q-68n-65-271	-17
Martin Laird	69n-66p-68q-68-271	-17
H. Swafford	65n-71p-70q-65-271	-17
Billy Horschel	72p-65q-70n-64-271	-17
Roberto Castro	68p-73q-66n-64-271	-17
Camilo Villegas	70n-66p-68q-68-272	-16
Harris English	67q-66n-71p-68-272	-16
Josh Teater	68n-68p-70q-66-272	-16
Rickie Fowler	68q-71n-67p-66-272	-16
Jason Bohn	70q-65n-66p-71-272	-16
Bryce Molder	69p-72q-63n-69-273	-15
Gary Woodland	69p-71q-65n-68-273	-15
A. Svoboda	69n-69p-66q-69-273	-15
C. Tringale	68q-66n-70p-69-273	-15
Jeff Overton	70q-67n-67p-69-273	-15
Brian Davis	69p-71q-66n-67-273	-15
Spencer Levin	69p-68q-66n-70-273	-15
Rory Sabbatini	68p-67q-67n-71-273	-15
Seung-Yul Noh	68p-66q-66n-73-273	-15
James Hahn	70p-68q-69n-66-273	-15

Abu Dhabi Championship

Sunday At Abu Dhabi Golf Club Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Final	,
Pablo Larrazabal	69-70-68-67-27
Rory McIlroy	70-67-70-68-27
Phil Mickelson	73-70-63-69-27
Rafa Cabrera-Bello	67-68-73-68-27
George Coetzee	68-70-72-66-27
Joost Luiten	68-70-72-68-27

Johan Carlsson Stephen Gallacher Robert Karlsson Gaganjeet Bhullar Thomas Bjorn Darren Fichardt Peter Hanson Tyrrell Hatton Michael Hoey Thongchai Jaidee Miguel Angel Jimenez Craio Lee Craig Lee 68-67-69-77-281 Also 76-68-70-68-282 Sergio Garcia Martin Kaymer Matteo Manassero 70-71-69-74-284 71-73-70-70-284 Luke Donald 70-73-71-71-285 73-68-74-71-286 Colin Montgomerie Darren Clarke 74-69-72-73-288 Jamie Donaldson 73-70-73-73-289 Mitsubishi Electric Champions Tour Sunday At Hualalai Golf Course

Johan Carleson

Kaupulehu-Kona, Hawaii Purse: \$1.8 million Yardage: 7,107; Par 72 Final

66-64-64-194 -22 65-65-67-197 -19 66-66-65-197 -19 68-66-65-199 -17 63-70-67-200 -16 B. Langer, \$307,000 Fred Couples, \$159,000 Jeff Sluman, \$159,000 Jay Haas, \$111,000 Rocco Mediate, \$91,000 David Frost, \$76,000 68-64-69-201 66-65-70-201 67-66-69-202 65-70-67-202 65-70-68-203 70-67-68-203 70-67-67-204 64-73-67-204 66-72-67-205 65-67-73-205 71-69-66-205 71-69-66-205 68-72-67-207 67-71-70-208 69-71-88-208 69-67-65-50 68-64-69-201 -15 Mark O'Meara, \$76,000 Tom Lehman, \$59,000 T. Pernice Jr., \$59.000 -15 -14 -14 T. Pernice Jr., \$59,000 Bart Bryant, \$47,500 Fred Funk, \$47,500 Russ Cochran, \$39,000 Dan Forsman, \$39,000 Jay Don Blake, \$34,000 Kirk Triplett, \$34,000 Kirk Triplett, \$34,000 Loren Roberts, \$28,000 Roper Chamman, \$33,000 -13 -13 Roger Chapman, \$23,200 John Cook, \$23,200 Mark McNulty, \$23,200 E. Toledo, \$23,200 76-67-65-208 69-72-67-208 71-70-67-208 Willie Wood, \$23,200 Hale Irwin, \$18,500 69-69-71-209 70-68-71-209 Larry Nelson, \$18,500 Larry Nelson, \$18,500 John Riegage, \$18,500 Tom Watson, \$18,500 Michael Allen, \$15,750 Nick Price, \$15,750 Oiln Browne, \$14,250 Joe Daley, \$14,250 Konki Idoki, \$14,250 Kenny Perry, \$12,500 Mike Reid, \$12,500 C. Strange, \$12,500 M. Calcavecchia, \$11,500 Craig Stadler, \$11,000 70-68-71-209 71-69-69-209 70-69-70-209 73-68-69-210 72-67-72-211 71-70-70-211 70-70-71-211 70-67-74-211 72-68-72-212 72-69-71-212 70-71-71-212 75-74-64-213 69-66-79-214 71-74-71-216 Craig Stadler, \$11,000 Tom Kite, \$10,750 Mark Wiebe, \$10,500 71-72-75-218 +2 76-76-75-227 +11 Ben Crenshaw, \$10,250

AP sportlight

Jan. 21

Jan. 21
1921 — Kenesaw Mountain Landis takes office as baseball's commissioner. 1947 — Carl Hubbell, Frank Frisch, Mickey Cochrane and Lefty Grove are elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.

1953 — Dizzy Dean and Al Simmons are elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame, The

even though the East beats the West 130-118. 1969 — Roy Campanella and Stan Mu-sial are elected to the Baseball Hall of

statistics of the desired of the des

winning the HealthSouth Inaugural at Walt Disney World Webb, in her second LPGA start, beat Jane Geddes and War-Webb finished second in her first LPGA start a week earlier in the Chrysler-Plymouth of the Chrysler-Plymouth

2005 - Four-time Olympic champion Ole Einar Bjoerndalen wins his 49th ca-reer World Cup biathlon, breaking the record for career victories. Bjoerndalen edges fellow Norwegian Frode Andresen in the 10-kilometer sprint event to pass former cross country great Bjorn Daehlie

at 48 career wins.

2006 — LeBron James scores 51 points
to lead Cleveland to a 108-90 win over
Utah. James, 21, becomes the youngest
player in NBA history with 5,000 in his

2007 – Lovie Smith becomes the first black head coach to make it to the Su black head coach to make it to the Su-per Bowl when his Chicago Bears win the NFC championship. Tony Dungy joins him when his Indianapolis Colts take the AFC title. 2007 — Phoenix wins its 13th straight, 131-102 over Minnesota, becoming the eighth team in NBA history to have two winning streaks of at least 13 games in a Season.

2009 – The New Jersey Institute of 2009 — The New Jersey Institute of Technology ends its 51-game losing streak, getting 26 points from Jheryl Wil-son in a 61-51 victory over Bryant. NJIT had not won since it defeated Longwood on Feb. 19, 2007. 2010 — Los Angeles guard Kobe Bryant

becomes the 15th player in NBA history to reach 25,000 career points and the youngest to hit the milestone. Bryant fin-

youngest to hit the milestone. Bryant finishes with 31 points in the Lakers' 93-87 loss at Cleveland. At 31 years, 151 days, Bryant got to 55,000 in 35 fewer days than Wilt Chamberlain.

2011 — The New Orleans Hornets take control late in the first half and hold the Hawks to their lowest-scoring game in Atlanta history with a 100-59 rout. The previous scoring low, since moving to Atlanta 42 years ago, was a 73-63 loss to Cleveland in 1996.

Cleveland in 1996.

2012 — Notre Dame upsets No. 1 Syracuse 67-58 and hands the Orange their first loss after 20 straight victories. It's the eighth time Notre Dame has beaten a No. 1 team — that ties for fourth-most

MLB calendar

Pro baseball

Jan. 17 - Salary arbitration figures

Jan. 17 — Salary arbitration figures exchanged.
Feb. 1-21 — Salary arbitration hearings, St. Petersburg, Fla.
Feb. 6 — Voluntary reporting date for Arizona and Los Angeles Dodgers pitchers, catchers and injured players.
Feb. 11 — Voluntary reporting date for Arizona and Los Angeles Dodgers other players.

Arizona and Los Angeles Doogle's Surjectives. 2 Voluntary reporting date for other team's pitchers, catchers and injured players, of the properties of the control of the c

vs. Arizona, Sydney.

March 26 — Last day to request unconditional release waivers on a player without having to pay his full 2014 sal-

ary.

March 30 — Opening day in North
America, Los Angeles Dodgers at San
Diego. Active rosters reduced to 25 play-

s. June 5 — Amateur draft. July 15 — All-Star game, Minneapolis. July 18 — Deadline for amateur draft picks to sign.

July 27 — Hall of Fame inductions,

July 27 — Hall of Fame Inductions, Cooperstown, N.Y. July 31 — Last day to trade a player without securing waivers. Sept. 1 — Active rosters expand to 40

players. Sept. 30 — Postseason begins. Oct. 22 — World Series begins.

Skiing

Men's World Cup Slalom

At Wengen, Switzerland
1. Alexis Pinturault, France, 1:42.87
(52.10-50.77). 2. Felix Neureuther, Germany, 1:43.21 (51.86-51.35). 3. Marcel Hirscher (51.86-51.35).

3. Marcel Hirscher, Austria, 1:43.50 (51.22-52.28).

4. Mario Matt, Austria, 1:43.62 (51.91-51.71). 5. Patrick Thaler, Italy, 1:43.63 (52.40-51.23). 6. Andre Myhrer, Sweden, 1:43.68 (51.45-52.23). 7. Fritz Dopfer, Germany, 1.45./1 (2013-51.77).
8. Jean-Baptiste Grange, France, 1:43.80 (52.17-51.63).
9. Steve Missillier, France, 1:44.00 (52.77-51.23).
10. Manfred Moelgg, Italy, 1:44.01 (51.99-52.02).
11. Markus Larsson, Sweden, 1:44.16 (22.76.51.46). 7. Fritz Dopfer, Germany, 1:43.71 (51.94-

5-51.46). Stefano Gross, Italy, 1:44.26 (52.41-51.85) Reinfried Herbst, Austria, 1:44.27
 Reinfried Herbst, Austria, 1:44.27
 Axel Baeck, Sweden, 1:44.45 (52.55-51.9 15. Henrik Kristoffersen, Norway, 1:44.48 (52.32-52.16).

1:44.48 (52.32-52.16) 16. Benjamin Raich, Austria, 1:44.53 (52.49-52.04). 17. Mitja Valencic, Slovenia, 1:44.61 (53.06-51.55). 18. Mattias Hargin, Sweden, 1:44.68 (52.16-52.52). (52.16-52.52).

20. Luca Aerni, Switzerland, 1:44.92 (53.45-51.48).

(53.45-51.48). Also
Will Brandenburg, United States, 59.18
(48th-first run), did not qualify for second run.
Ted Ligety, United States, disqualified,
first run Ted Ligety, United States, did not finish first run.

Tim Kelley, United States, did not finish first run.

Tim Kelley, United States, did not finish first run.

rst run. World Cup Slalom Standings (After five of nine races) Marcel Hirscher, Austria, 340

oints.

2. Mario Matt, Austria, 250.
3. Mattlas Hargin, Sweden, 233.
4. Mattlas Hargin, Sweden, 232.
5. Mattlas Hargin, Sweden, 232.
6. Henrick Harler, Italy, 209.
6. Henrick Kristoffersen, Norway, 190.
7. Andre Myhrer, Sweden, 182.
6. Harler Sweden, 182.
6. Marired Moelgg, Italy, 163.
6. David Chodounsky, United States, 182.
16. David Chodounsky, United States,

28. Ted Ligety, United States, 28.
44. Bode Miller, United States, 5.
Overall World Cup Standings
(After 19 events)
1. Aksel Lund Svindal, Norway, 757

oints.

2. Marçel Hirscher, Austria, 735.

3. Alexis Pinturault, France, 506.

4. Ted Ligety, United States, 433.

5. Felix Neureuther, Germany, 391.

6. Hannes Reichelt, Austria, 376.

7. Patrick Kueng, Switzerland, 366.

8. Bode Miller, United States, 309. 8. Bode Miller, United Stares, 309.

9. Peter Fill, Italy, 278.

10. Erik Guay, Canada, 261.

10. Matthias Mayer, Austria, 261.

Also

50. Travis Ganong, United States, 88.

52. David Chodounsky, United States,

. 59. Tim Jitloff, United States, 63.

College basketball Men's Top 25 Fared

This Week
1. Arizona (18-0) beat Arizona State

1. Arizona (18-0) beat Arizona State 91-68.
2. Syracuse (18-0) beat Boston College 69-59; beat No. 22 Pittsburgh 59-54.
3. Wisconsin (16-2) lost to Indiana 75-72; lost to Michigan 77-70.
4. Michigan State (17-1) beat North-western 54-40; beat Illinois 78-62.
5. Wichita State (19-0) beat Bradley 73-56: hoat Indiana State 68-48.

Wichita State (19-0) year bracks,
72-50; beat Indiana State 68-48.
 Willianova (16-1) beat DePaul 88-62.
 Florida (15-2) beat Georgia 72-50; beat Auburn 68-61.

beat Auburn 68-61.
8. Iowa State (14-3) lost to No. 15 Kan-sas 77-70; lost to Texas 86-76.
9. Oklahoma State (15-3) beat TCU 82-50; lost to No. 15 Kansas 80-78.
10. San Diego State (16-1) beat Fresno State 68-60; beat UNIV 63-52.

15. Kansas (13-4) beat No. 8 lowa State 77-70; beat No. 9 Oklahoma State 80-78. 16. UMass (16-1) beat George Mason 88-87; beat Elon 84-74.

88-87; beat Elon 84-74.

17. Memphis (13-4) lost to UConn 83-73; beat LeMoyne-Owen 101-78.

18. Louisville (16-3) beat Houston 91-52; beat UConn 76-64.

29. Deat UConn 76-64.

20. Creighton (16-3) beat Temple 69-58; beat South Ford 61-54.

20. Creighton (16-3) beat Butler 88-69.

21. Colorado (15-4) lost to No. 25 UCA.

25. Deat Southern Cla 33-26.

26. Colorado (15-4) lost to No. 25 UCA.

16. Signate Southern Cla 33-27.

17. Supple (14-4) beat Virginia 69-65; Cast Southern Cla 32-27.

23. Duke (14-4) beat Virginia 69-65;

Iech 81-/4; lost to No. 2 Syracuse 99-94.
23. Duke (14-4) beat Virginia 69-65; beat N.C. State 95-60.
24. Saint Louis (17-2) beat St. Bonaventure 66-60; beat Fordham 70-48.
25. Oklahoma (14-4) lost to Kansas State 72-66; beat No. 12 Baylor 66-64.
25. UCLA (14-4) beat No. 21 Colorado 69-56; lost to Utah 74-69.

Sunday's men's scores

Army 74, Bucknell 67
Baruch 78, Wesleyan (Conn.) 64
Iona 88, Siena 74
Mitchell 71, COMY 99
Monmouth (NJ) 83, Canisius 82
Southern Miss. 80, Louisiana Tech 71
Towson 72, Col. off Charleston 57

MIDWEST Bowling Green 69, W. Michigan 64

Bowling Green 69, W. Michigan 6
Green Bay 69, Ill.-Chicago 64
lowa 94, Minnesota 73
Notre Dame 70, Virginia Tech 63
Wright St. 49, Cleveland St. 46
SOUTHWEST
HOUSTON 77, Rutgers 55
SMU 73, Hofstra 49
FAR WEST
Oregon St. 80, Oregon 72
Utah Valley 52, Seattle 51

74

Sunday's women's scores EAST Boston U. 70, Loyola (Md.) 60 Coll. of Charleston 90, Northeastern

Drexel 61, Delaware 52 James Madison 77, Hofstra 50 Marist 73, Canisius 47 Niagara 48, Monmouth (NJ) 45 North Carolina 73, Boston College 56 North Carolina 73, Boston Coilege 56 Saint Joseph's 64, La Salle 52 Syracuse 58, Pittsburgh 47 UConn 94, Rutgers 64 UNC Wilmington 54, Towson 53 SOUTH Appalachian St. 75, UNC-Greensboro

Duke 74, Virginia Tech 70

Duke 74, Virginia Tech 70 Elon 67, W. Carolina 52 Georgia 68, Florida 62 Kentucky 73, Aubum 71 Elon 71, W. Carolina 62, M. Carolina 62, M. Carolina 71, M. Carolina 71, M. Carolina 77, Alabama 51, Vanderbill 79, 15U, 70 Virginia 85, Florida 5, Georgia 71, Virginia 85, Florida 5, Georgia 71, Virginia 85, Florida 50, M. Carolina 71, Virginia 85, Florida 50, Florida 50, M. Carolina 71, Virginia 85, Florida 71, Virginia 85, Florida 71, Virginia 85, Florida 71, Virginia 71,

Loyola of Chicago 73, Bradley 63 Penn St. 66, Michigan St. 54 Purdue 77, Nebraska 75 SOUTHWEST

SOUTHWEST
Arkansas 68, Mississippi 65
Louisville 81, SMU 66
LOU 54, Texas 48
Texas A&M 73, Mississippi St. 35
FAR WEST
Gonzaga 67, Santa Clara 61
Portland 82, San Francisco 72
Southern Cal 109, Oregon 85
Utah 59, Washington 81, Colorado 71
Washington 81, Colorado 71

NBA

Roundup

Magic get first win of 2014 against struggling Celtics

The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. - The Magic have their first victory of the new year.

Entering the day as one of only two teams left in the NBA not to register a victory in 2014, Orlando ended its recent frustrations against a Boston Celtics team that is struggling just as much.

Arron Afflalo had 20 points and 13 rebounds, Tobias Ĥarris added 18 points and the Magic snapped a season-high 10-game losing streak with a 93-91 win Sunday night.

After a close fourth quarter with several ties, Harris sank a pair of free throws with 10.1 seconds remaining to give Orlando its first victory since Dec. 29.
"The emphasis was to win," Af-

flalo said. "I thought we did that because I could feel no personal agendas, could feel nothing but five guys on the court and the two guvs who came off the bench really looking for a way to get a victory."

Glen Davis added 17 points and Jameer Nelson 16 for Orlando.

For Davis, a former Celtic, the win was especially sweet. It was his first victory over his former team since being traded to the Magic before the 2011-12 season in a deal that sent Davis to Orlando and Brandon Bass to Boston.

Magic coach Jacque Vaughn said with Nik Vucevic still out recovering from a concussion they are asking Davis to do a lot more on the defensive end.

Jeff Green led the Celtics with 22 points, and Avery Bradley and Kris Humphries added 18 apiece. Rajon Rondo finished with six points and four assists playing in his second game back from a torn

Boston has lost nine straight on the road and 11 of 12 overall. Bradley said it's going to take

time to integrate Rondo back into things.

'We all have to get used to each other," Bradley said. "The good thing is we are all open to it and we all have the same goals."

Suns 117, Nuggets 103: Channing Frye scored a seasonhigh 30 points before sitting out the final 91/2 minutes to watch host Phoenix wrap up its romp over Denver.

Frve, who missed all of last season for treatment of an enlarged heart, made 12 of 16 shots, five of seven three-pointers, to fall three points shy of his career high.

Markieff Morris scored 16 and Goran Dragic 15 for the Suns, who never trailed and improved to 3-0 against Denver this season with one game to play.

Thunder 108, Kings 93: Kevin Durant scored 30 points to lead host Oklahoma City past



IONN RADUY/AP

Orlando's Victor Oladino gets to the basket for a shot in front of the Celtics' Brandon Bass on Sunday in Orlando, Fla.

Durant, coming off a careerhigh 54 points Friday against Golden State, shot 10-for-15 from the field and had nine assists. He scored at least 30 points for the seventh straight game.

Serge Ibaka added 20 points and Reggie Jackson had 16 for the Thunder, who won their third straight.

Isaiah Thomas scored a ca-reer-high 38 points for the Kings, but he slowed in the second half as the Thunder pulled away. De-Marcus Cousins added 16 points and 14 rebounds for Sacramento.

Rudy Gay scored just six points for the Kings and was ejected after picking up two technical fouls in the fourth quarter.

Lakers 112. Raptors 106: Nick Young returned from suspension to score 29 points and Pau Gasol had 22 as visiting Los Angeles beat Toronto for just its third win in 15 games.

Young scored 14 points in the fourth quarter as the Lakers overcame a 19-point first-half deficit. They won back-to-back games for

the first time since beating Memphis on Dec. 17 and Minnesota on Dec. 20.

Ryan Kelly scored 17 in his first career start and Kendall Marshall had 10 points and 11 assists. The Lakers are 16-25 at the season's midpoint.

DeMar DeRozan scored 23 points for Toronto, which had won six straight at home.

Spurs 110, Bucks 82: Patty Mills had 20 points and Tim Duncan had 11 points and 13 rebounds in limited action as host San Antonio kept Milwaukee winless in the new year.

Marco Belinelli scored 14 points, Jeff Ayres and Nando De Colo had 13 points apiece, and Kawhi Leonard added 11 points in 21 minutes for San Antonio, which was without starters Tony Parker and Tiago Splitter, former starter Danny Green and threepoint specialist Matt Bonner.

Brandon Knight scored 21 points, and John Henson had 10 points and 11 rebounds for Milwaukee, which has lost nine straight.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

	W	L	Pct	GB									
Toronto	20	19	.513	-									
Brooklyn	16	22	.421	31/2									
New York	15	25	.375	51/2									
Boston	14	28	.333	71/2									
Philadelphia	13	27	.325	71/2									
Southeast Division													
Miami	29	11	.725	-									
Atlanta	20	19	.513	81/2									
Washington	19	20	.487	91/2									
Charlotte	17	25	.405	13									
Orlando	11	30	.268	181/2									
Central D													
Indiana	32	7	.821	-									
Chicago	19	20	.487	13									
Detroit	17	23	.425	151/2									
Cleveland	15	25	.375	171/2									
Milwaukee	7	33	.175	251/2									

Western Conference

Southwest Division											
	W	L	Pct	GB							
San Antonio	32	9	.780	-							
Houston	27	15	.643	51/2							
Dallas	24	18	.571	81/2							
Memphis	20	19	.513	11							
New Orleans	15	24	.385	16							
Northwest Division											
Portland	31	9	.775	-							
Oklahoma City	31	10	.756	1/2							
Denver	20	20	.500	11							
Minnesota	19	21	.475	12							
Utah	14	28	.333	18							
Pacific Di		n									
L.A. Clippers	28	14	.667	-							
Golden State	26	16	.619	2							
Phoenix	23	17	.575	4							
L.A. Lakers	16	25	.390	111/2							
Sacramento	14	25	.359	121/2							
Saturday's	gan	nes									

Saturday's games Indiana 106, L.A. Clippers 92 Detroit 104, Washington 98 Miami 104, Charlotte 96, OT Chicago 103, Philadelphia 78 Minnesota 98, Utah 72 Houston 114, Milwaukee 104 Golden State 97, New Orleans 87 Portland 127, Dallas 111

Portland 127, Dallas 111

Sunday's games
L.A. Lakers 112, Toronto 106
Orlando 93, Boston 91
Oklahoma City 108, Sacramento 93
San Antonio 110, Milwaukee 82
Phoenix 117, Denver 103

Monday's games
Dallas at Cleveland
L A Clinpers at Detroit

Dallas at Cleveland
L.A. Clippers at Detroit
Philadelphia at Washington
Toronto at Charlotte
Brooklyn at New York
New Orleans at Memphis
Miami at Atlanta
L.A. Lakers at Chicago
Portland at Houston
Indiana at Golden State Indiana at Golden State

Tuesday's games
Orlando at Brooklyn
Boston at Miami
Portland at Oklahoma City
Sacramento at New Orleans Minnesota at Utah

Thunder 108, Kings 93

son, Adams 7). Assists—Sacramento 1/ (Thomas 6), Oklahoma City 23 (Durant 9). Total Fouls—Sacramento 22, Oklahoma City 24. Technicals—Gay 2, Thompson, Sacramento defensive three second, Oklahoma City defensive three second. Ejected—Gay, A—18,203 (18,203).

Spurs 110. Bucks 82

MILWAUKEE — Antetokounmpo 4-10 0-0 11, Ilyasova 1-6 0-0 2, Sanders 4-8 2-4 10, Knight 8-16 3-3 21, Ridnour 1-5 0-0 2, Mayo 0-4 0-0 0, Middleton 4-7 0-2 8, Henson 5-11 0-1 10, Raduljica 1-3 0-0 2, Udol 1-3 2-2 4, Neal 1-8 0-0 3, Wolters 3-7 3-5 9

San Antonio 29 24 31 26-110 Three-point Goals-Milwaukee 6-21 (Antetokoumppo 3-6, Knight 2-4, Neal 1-5, Ilyasova 0-1, Wolters 0-1, Mayo 0-2, Middleton 0-2), San Antonio 11-18 (Mills 4-6, De Colo 3-4, Belinelli 2-3, Joseph 2-3, Leonard 0-1, Ginobili 0-1), Fouled Out-None. Rebounds-Milwaukee 41 Out—None. Rebounds—Milwaukee 41 (Henson 11), San Antonio 62 (Duncan 13). Assists—Milwaukee 19 (Knight, Wolters, Ridnour, Neal 3), San Antonio 28 (Gino-bili, Mills 7), Total Fouls—Milwaukee 18, San Antonio 16. A—18,096 (18,797).

Lakers 112, Raptors 106

Lakers 112, Raptors 1100
La Lakers — WJohnson 2-4 2-2 8, kelly 5-7 66-17, Gasol 8-20 6-62 7, kelly 5-7 66-17, Gasol 8-20 6-62 7, kelly 5-7 66-17, Gasol 8-20 6-62 7, kelly 3-7, 13-10-1129, kerris 3-8-0-07, ri-lili 3-4-0-0

Toronto \$ 2 2 2 25—100
Three-point Goals—LA. Lakers 12-22
(Young 5-7, W.Johnson 2-3, Marshall 2-3,
Harris 12, Kelly 12, Meeks 1-3, Toronto
Johnson 1-4, Vasquez 1-5, DeRozan 0-3,
Johnson 1-4, Toronto 56 (Patterson,
Gasol 9), Toronto 56 (Patterson,
Gasol 9), Toronto 56 (Patterson,
Gasol 9), Toronto 57, Toronto 70, Toronto 71, TechniLak Lakers 13, Toronto 71, TechniLak 1-2, Marshall 1-2, Marshall 1-2, Toronto 71, TechniLak 1-2, Marshall 1-2, Marshall 1-2, Toronto 71, TechniLak 1-2, Marshall 1-2, Marshal

Magic 93. Celtics 91

Magic 94, Lettics 91 19805100 - Green 4-11 13-15 27, 28 18 20 18 2

 orlando
 II
 35
 1
 27-93

 Three-point
 Goals—Boston
 3:13
 (Olynyk.1-1, Green I.) Scallinger I. S

Suns 117, Nuggets 103

DENUES 1.17, NUEGETS 1.U3
DENUES - Chandler 7.18 to 9.01 f, arised 1.5 1.2 2, Hickson 5.14 4.7 14, Lawson 6.14 6.5 17, Pournier 6.11 2.2 17, Moggo 2.5 3.
Fig. 17, Denuer 6.11 2.2 17, Moggo 2.5 3.
Randolph 6.9 5.6 19, Totala 36-82 22.30 103.
PHOENIX - Tucker 1.4 3.4 6, Fype 1.2 5.1 2.90, Plumites 1.5 5.0 2, Dragic 5.11 5.1 2.90, Plumites 1.5 5.0 2, Dragic 5.1 3. 13, Mark, Morris 6.12 4.5 16, Law 3.4 3.4 9, Smith 3.8 1.2 7, Marc, Morris 4.10 1.1 10. Totals 4.6 9.1 7.7 12 12 13 24—103
Phoenix 4.2 8.2 23 33—117
Three-point Goals—Denver 9.28

Phoenix 34 28 22 33-ur
Three-point Goals—Denver 9-28
(Fournier 3-4, Chardler 3-12, Randolph
2-4, Robinson 1-4, O.Miller 0-1, Lawson
0-3), Phoenix 8-19 (Frye 5-7, Green 1-2,
Tucker 1-3, Marc.Morris 1-5, Barboso 0-1),
Dragic 0-1), Fouled Out—Chandler, Rebounds—Denver 50 (Hickson 13), Phoenix 58 (Tucker 9), Assists—Denver 18
(*Jawson 14) Dhoeniy 23 (Pagic 6), Total (Lawson 14), Phoenix 23 (Dragic 6). Total Fouls—Denver 23, Phoenix 20. Flagrant Fouls—Chandler. A—16,211 (18,422).



FRANK GUNN, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AF

Raptors guard DeMar DeRozan is fouled by Lakers guard Nick Young during fourth-quarter on Sunday in Toronto.

NHI

Roundup

Blackhawks slide past Bruins in Stanley Cup finals rematch

CHICAGO - Patrick Kane sped toward the net and shuffled his skates for a few precious seconds. Then came a well-placed wrist shot and the Chicago Blackhawks had another big victory.

Something about the Boston Bruins brings out the best in Kane and Co.

Kane scored in a shootout to lift Chicago to a 3-2 win over Boston Sunday in a rematch of last season's Stanley Cup finals, capping an impressive weekend for the Blackhawks that also included a win over NHL-leading Anaheim.

"Two big games against two great teams," Kane said. "I can't say we were going as well as we wanted to before these two games."

Jonathan Toews beat Tuukka Rask on the stick side to give the Blackhawks the lead in the tiebreaker, but Brad Marchand's quick wrist shot got by Corey Crawford, tying it for the Bruins.

Kane, who won the Conn Smythe Trophy last year as playoff MVP, then skated toward the goal, slowed up for a second and sent a shot past Rask on the stick side to give Chicago the win. The Blackhawks had lost their previous seven games that had gone past regulation.

"It was a great test, and nice to finally get a shootout win, too, coach Joel Quenneville said.

Marian Hossa and Brandon Bollig had the regulation goals for Chicago, which beat Boston in six games in June for the title. Quenneville picked up win No. 692, matching Dick Irvin Sr., for third on the NHL's career list.

Marchand scored in each of the first two periods for the Bruins, who had won two of three. Rask had 35 stops.



Chicago Blackhawks' Patrick Sharp (10) controls the puck against Boston Bruins' Jarome Iginla (12) during the first period of Sunday's game in Chicago. The Blackhawks won 3-2 in a shootout in a rematch of last year's Stanley Cup finalists.

Lightning 5, Hurricanes 3: Mark Barberio scored his first two career goals as Tampa Bay beat host Carolina and moved into a share of first place in the Atlantic Division with Boston at 62 points

Rangers 4, Capitals 1: Rick Nash scored two of New York's three first-period goals in a win visiting Washington as goalie Henrik Lundqvist won for the fifth time in six outings. Alex Ovechkin scored for Washington

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Lastern	Lastern Contention										
Atlantic Division											
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA				
Boston	48	30		3		138					
Tampa Bay	50	29	16	5	63	146	123				
Montreal	49	27	17	5	59	126	120				
Toronto	50			5	55	141	152				
Detroit	48	21	17	10	52	121	130				
Ottawa	49	21	19	9	51	139	155				
Florida	48	18	23	7	43	111	147				
Buffalo	47			7		86	133				
Metrop	olita	an I	Div	isio	n						
Pittsburgh	48			2	70	156	115				
N.Y. Rangers	51	27	21		57	128					
Philadelphia	49	25	19	5	55	134	140				
Columbus	48	24	20	4	52	138	135				
Washington	49	22	19	8	52	142	150				
New Jersey	50	20	19	11	51	115	123				
Carolina	48	20	19	9	49	117	137				
N.Y. Islanders	50	19	24	7	45	138	163				

Western Conference

Central Division GP W L OT Pts GF GA 51 32 8 11 75 184 139 47 32 10 5 69 166 107 48 31 12 5 67 142 122 51 27 7 19 5 59 125 125 48 21 19 8 50 136 148 50 21 22 7 49 121 151 50 22 23 5 49 141 150 Chicago St. Louis Colorado Minnesota Dallas Nashville Winnipeg

Saturday's games Columbus 4, Buffalo 3, SO Columbus 4, Buffalo 3, SO Detroit 3, Los Angeles 2, SO Vancouver 3, Calgary 2, SO N.Y. Rangers 4, Ottawa 1 San Jose 5, Tampa Bay 4 Winnipeg 3, Edmonton 2, OT Toronto 5, Montreal 3 Philadelphia 6, N.Y. Islanders 4 Carolina 3, Florida 2 Anahejm 3, St. I ouis 2 Carolina 3, Florida 2 Anaheim 3, St. Louis 2 Colorado 5, Nashville 4 Phoenix 3, New Jersey

Colorado 5, Nashville 4
Phoenix 3, New Jersey 2
Minnesota 3, Dallas 2, OT
Sunday's games
Chicago 3, Boston 2, SO
Tampa Bay 5, Carolina 3
N.Y. Rangers 4, Washington 1
Monday's games
Philadelphia at N.Y. Islanders
Ios Angeles at Boston

Philadelphia at W. Slanders Los Angeles at Boston Florida at Pittsburgh Florida at Pittsburgh St. Louis at Detroit Dallas at Nashville Toronto at Phoenix Calgary at San Jose Florida at Buffalo St. Louis at New Jersey N.Y. Islanders at N.Y. Rangers Carolina at Philadelphia Ottawa at Washington Ottawa at Washington Minnesota at Loalias Minnesota at Loalias Toronto at Colorado Toronto at Colorado Vancouver at Edmonton

Winnipeg at Anaheim

Wednesday's games

Montreal at Pittsburgh

Montreal at Pittsburgh
Chicago at Detroit
Phoenix at Calgary
Thursday's games
Carolina at Buffalo
St. Louis at N.Y. Rangers
Philadelphia at Columbus
Ottawa at Tampa Bay
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Islanders
Chicago at Minnesota
Toronto at Dallas
Toronto at Dallas
Nashville at Vancouver Nashville at Vancouver Los Angeles at Anaheim Winnipeg at San Jose

Blackhawks 3, Bruins 2 (SO)

(36-34). A-22,197 (19,717), T-2:35.

Rangers 4, Capitals 1

N.Y. Rangers

First Period – I. N.Y. Rangers, Nash 13,
1:10. 2, N.Y. Rangers, Nash 14 (Richards,
McDonagh), 16:06 (pp). 3, N.Y. Rangers,
Stepan 9 (Det Zotto, Girard), 17:49

Second Period - A, Washington, 17:49

Second Period - A, Washington, 17:49

Rangers, Callahan 9 (D.Moore, Girard),
2:30

Shote, Real Marchington, 19:40

Shote, Real Marchington, 19:40

Shote, Real Marchington, 19:40

Shote, Real Marchington, 19:40

Single Real Marchington, 19:40

Shote, Real Marchington, 19:40

Real Marchington, 19:40

Shote, Real Marchington, 19:40

2:25 (sh).

Shots on Goal—Washington 10-8-7—
25. NN, Rangers 9-11-6-26.

Power-play opportunities—Washington 1 of 4; NN, Rangers 1 of 5.

Goalies—Washington, Grabuer 6-4-56.

Shots-5 saves), Holtby (17:49 first, 18-17).

N, Rangers, Lundqvist 17-17-3 (25-24).

A—18,006 (18,006), T—2:24.

Lightning 5, Hurricanes 3

Tampa Bay Tampa Bay

2 0-5

carolina

Leaders Through Jan. 19

	GP	G	Α	PTS
Sidney Crosby, Pit	48	25	43	68
Rvan Getzlaf, Anh	47	25	33	58
John Tavares, NYI	49		36	58
Patrick Kane, Chi	51	23	33	56
Corey Perry, Anh	51	27	28	55
Joe Thornton, SJ	49	6	46	52
Martin St. Louis, TB	50	25	25	50
Patrick Sharp, Chi	51	25	25	50
Goaltendi	na			

Cam Talhot NVR Cam Talbot, NYR Josh Harding, Min Cory Schneider, NJ Ben Bishop, TB Brian Elliott, StI Jonathan Quick, LA Ben Scrivens, Edm Tuukka Rask, Bos

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AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Sharapova upset; Murray, Nadal tested

Azarenka's path to third straight title clears a little more; top men reach quarterfinals

By Dennis Passa The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Two-time defending champion Victoria Azarenka saw another of her main adversaries crash out of the Australian Open on Monday, while top-ranked Rafael Nadal and Wimbledon champion Andy Murray faced tougher-than-expected matches to advance to the quarterfinals at Melbourne Park.

Maria Sharapova joined Serena Williams as fourth-round casualties, leaving Azarenka a potentially easier run to the words of the sharapova was beaten by No. 20 Dominika Cibulkova in the match on Rod Laver Arena immediately before Azarenka defeated Sloane Stephens, the last remaining American in the singles draw.

Nadal won three tough sets against Kei Nishikori, while Murray wasted four match points in the third set — including two in the tiebreaker — before dominating the fourth set against lucky loser Stephane Robert of France.

Four-time Australian Open champion Roger Federer was never threatened in beating 2008 finalist Jo-Wilfried Tsonga 6-3,7-5,6-4 in a late match. He will play Murray in the quarterfinals on Wednesday.

Third-seeded Sharapova, complaining of a hip allment, lost 3-6, 6-4, 6-1 after struggling with her serve and making 45 unforced errors. She joins Williams on the sidelines after the top-ranked American lost in three sets Sunday to Ana Ivanovic, ending 25-match winning streak.

Sharapova had spent the latter months of last year on the sidelines with a right shoulder injury, so she wasn't expecting much of herself.

"I have to look at the positives and see where I have come from in four or five months," Sharapova said. "I haven't played a lot of tennis."

Azarenka had a 6-3, 6-2 win over No. 13-seeded Stephens, the player who beat Williams in the quarterfinals here last year and then lost to Azarenka in the semi-finals under controversial circumstances. Azarenka took a medical time out when Stephens started to gain momentum in that match, then came back to advance to the final and subsequently win her second Australian Open trophy.

She wasn't getting carried away Monday with the apparent ease of the draw with Williams and Sharapova gone.

"The players who beat those players deserve all the credit because they've been better, so they are dangerous and they are competitive," Azarenka said.

Azarenka, who is on an 18-match winning streak at Melbourne Park, will next play No. 5 Agnieszka Radwanska, who beat Spain's Garbine Muguruza 6-1, 6-3 in the final fourth-round match Monday night.

Nadal beat Nishikori 7-6 (3), 7-5, 7-6 (3), though he was broken twice in the third set — getting a time violation from chair umpire Evanthia Asderaki in one of the games.

"Normally I have a good self-control on court, and it's true that the moment was a very critical one," Nadal said of the time violation.

The 13-time major winner also tripped in the first set and tumbled to the court, then had to go to the locker room to change shoes.

Nadal next plays Grigor Dimitrov, who reached the quarterfinals of a Grand Slam for the first time with a 6-3, 3-6, 6-2, 6-4



FUGENE HOSHIKO/A

Maria Sharapova reaches for a shot from Dominika Cibulkova during their fourth-round match at the Australian Open on Monday. The third-seeded Sharapova lost to the 20th-seeded Cibulkova, following No. 1-seed Serena Williams out of the tournament.



AARON FAVILA/AP

Victoria Azarenka celebrates after defeating American teen Sloane Stephens in their fourth-round match at the Australian Open in Melbourne on Monday.

win over Roberto Bautista Agut.

Three-time Australian Öpen finalist Murray ended the run of Robert, wasting match points in the third set and smashing his racket after the tiebreaker before advancing 6-1, 6-2, 7-6 (6), 6-2.

"He's a fun player to watch, but not a fun player to play," Murray said of Robert's assortment of drop shots and deft groundstrokes.

The racket smashing was pure frustration.

"Losing that set was frustrating because it obviously means you're out there another 30, 40 minutes at least, when I would preferably had been in the locker room,"

I don't feel like I killed it, but it won't be getting used again.

> Andy Murray Fourth-seeded men's player

Murray said. "My racket bit the dust. Unfortunate for it."

Murray couldn't quite remember the last time he smashed a racket. Or maybe

he just has a bad memory. But he certainly didn't forget how to crack the frame with one lethal strike after wasting four match points at the end of the third set of his fourth-round win over Stephane Robert at the Australian Open on Monday.

There's an art to smashing a racket properly, he said.

"A lot of guys sort of hold it by the throat and kind of throw it face down. That's how you would throw it if you didn't want to break the racket," he said. "Whereas if you just kind of go flat with the frame or if you just hit the frame like that, the racket's gone straight away."

Murray's racket was gone straight away, not unlike the way he smashed his racket at last year's U.S. Open when he lost in straight sets to Stanislas Wawrinka.

"I don't feel like I killed it, but it won't be getting used again," he said of Monday's effort. "Sometimes it's necessary."

Murray said he's expecting a tough match against Federer, regardless of the Swiss player's recent drop in the rankings that has seen him seeded sixth here.

"I think last year you could see at periods he was struggling with his back," Murray said. "And if he's fully fit, I've said all along, he's always going to be there or thereabouts in the majors, and he'll give himself opportunities to win more because he's that good."

Federer lost to Murray in the semifinals last year in five sets after beating Tsonga in five in the quarterfinals.

"It's the same draw just one round earlier for me," Federer said. "I'm happy this time I didn't play five sets."

On Tuesday, the first of the quarterfinals begin when Ivanovic plays Eugenie Bouchard and two-time Australian Open finalist Li Na takes on Flavia Pennetta.

In men's quarterfinals, three-time defending champion Novak Djokovic plays Stanislas Wawrinka and No. 3 David Ferrer takes on No. 7 Tomas Berdych.



RICK RYCROFT/

Andy Murray of Britain sits in a chair beside his smashed racket during a break in his fourth-round match against Stephane Robert at the Australian Open on Monday. Murray cruised except in the third set, when he smashed the racket.

OLYMPICS

Notes

White soars to Sochi with chance at three-peat

Snowboarder wins qualifier to earn an automatic spot on US Olympic halfpipe team

The Associated Press

Shaun White is soaring to Sochi.

The two-time Olympic gold medalist in the halfpipe will get a chance at a rare three-peat — and then some — when the Winter Games begin next month in Russia.

White was named to the U.S. White was named to the U.S. White saming one of the three automatic spots on the ment steam by winning Sunday's final qualifier. White posted a score of 96.6 to edge a resurgent Danny Davis for his second victory in three days to cap a busy week.

The 27-year-old overcame an ugly crash during a slopestyle event Thursday to bounce back and clinch a spot on the inaugural slopestyle team. He was nearly flawless during the last two half-pipe events. As he did Friday, White nailed a frontside doublecork 1440 on Sunday, the hardest trick currently being done in competition.

Now it's on to Sochi with a chance for White to double his career medal count, an ambitious decision and a coup of sorts for NBC, which will have two opportunities to showcase White during an Olympics searching for American star power now that alpine skier Lindsey Vonn is sidelined with a knee injury.

"This has been the craziest journey to get here from doing slope and pipe and just like the process I'm going through," White said. "It's a tough thing. I love that about this time around, it is not the same. It stays exciting. If it was just halfpipe, maybe I would have procrastinated (in preparation)."

preparation)."
White will be joined by 2010
Olympian Greg Bretz and newcomers Davis and Taylor Gold.
Davis was poised to head to Vancouver four years ago and even
beat White in a pre-Olympic event
only to have his pelvis crushed in
an all-terrain vehicle accident a
few weeks before the Games.

Barring a setback, Davis may

be White's toughest competition in Sochi. The 25-year-old won a qualifying event that White sat out early Friday and put together an ambitious run Sunday, falling just 1.6 points short of catching White's spectacular set.

Gold will have a familiar face to hang with in his Olympic debut. Gold's younger sister, Arielle, was named to the women's half-

Olympic halfpipe champions Kelly Clark and Hannah Teter are also heading to Russia, as is Kaitlyn Farrington, who ended Clark's four-event winning streak by edging the 2002 gold medalist in Sunday's finale.

Clark, who earned bronze in Vancouver, remains steady at age 30. She locked down an Olympic berth early and is a threat to earn a third medal in Sochi, where she will try to catch reigning Olympic champion Torah Bright.

Sage Kotsenburg and Chas Guldemond also made the slopestyle team, as did Jamie Anderson and Ty Walker, all of whom could contend for a medal as the sport makes its Olympic debut.

Yet the conversation begins, just like halfpipe, with White. The greatest snowboarder of all time is eager to become the first U.S. male to earn gold in three straight Games. Though he's not the overwhelming favorite in slopestyle that he is in halfpipe, his ability to deliver when it counts makes him an early favorite.

White credits the addition of slopestyle to keeping him sharp. "It's really made me push the limits," he said.

Limits that no other snowboarder on the planet can reach when White is on.

Two days after nailing his new trick — which packs four twists and two flips during one frantic jump — during what amounted to a victory lap on Friday, he did it again on Sunday. If he can do it in Russia next month, White will head back home with history in

"It's just really demanding to



GERRY KAHRMANN, CANWEST NEWS SERVICE/MC

Shaun White, who won the gold medal in snowboard halfpipe at the 2006 Turin Games and in 2010 in Vancouver, will try to make it three in a row next month at the Games in Sochi, Russia.

switch gears and do both," he said. "But I won slopestyle and won here, (I'll) just try to keep it going."

Violinist Vanessa-Mae qualifies for Thai team

LONDON — The manager of Vanessa-Mae said the musician will be swapping her violin for skis to compete at the Winter Olympics.

Giles Howard said the classicalpop violinist has qualified for the Thai team at the Sochi games.

The International Ski Federation published rankings on Monday confirming Vanessa-Mae has met the qualifying criteria to compete at Sochi.

The federation's alpine media coordinator, Ana Jelusic, told Britain's Press Association news agency that the 35-year-old musician "ticks all the boxes," having gained the required level of points in at least five slalom or giant slalom races.

Singapore-born, London-raised Vanessa-Mae Vanakorn Nicholson competes as Vanessa Vanakorn, using the surname of her Thai father. A child prodigy who played violin from age 5, she shot to fame in 1995 with her debut album "Violin Player."

VanLaanen continues comeback with victory

PARK CITY, Utah — Angeli VanLaanen locked up a spot on the U.S. Olympic team in the ski halfpipe at the U.S. Grand Prix on Saturday, marking a high point in her comeback after a three-year hiatus because of Lyme disease. VanLaanen needed a podium finish to clinch the last guaranteed spot on the team bound for Sochi. She ended up with a winning score of 88.20.

Devin Logan, who had already qualified for slopestyle, placed third, but she'll have to wait and see if another spot is added for the halfpipe. Brita Sigourney, already on the team, finished second.

Lyman Currier also won with a score of 92.60, clinching the third and final guaranteed Sochi spot among the men. Aaron Blunck earned a spot on the team with a second-place finish.

Third-place finisher Gus Kenworthy will have to wait to see if he gets a discretionary selection.

Herman makes US team in ski slopestyle event

PARK CITY, Utah — Keri Herman completed her quest for the Sochi Olympics Saturday by finishing second in the ski slopestyle qualifier at the U.S. Grand Prix. Herman's best run scored a

91.80 and clinched the third and final guaranteed spot for the games with an additional woman's spot potentially still available. Julia Krass came in first on the day for the women with a high score of 92.60 and Dara Howell of Canada placed third.

"It was great coming out here and skiing with the best girls around the world. I ended up in second and I'm stoked, I made it on the Olympic team officially," Herman said.

Gus Kenworthy — winner of the 2011 and 2012 AFP overall titles — took second for the men's slopestyle at the U.S. Grand Prix with a score of 95.00, punching his ticket to Sochi for the third and final guaranteed men's spot.

"I honestly think that qualifying for the Olympics for the US is tougher than it's going to be to win a medal when you get to Russia. There's so many guys here, when you get there, the field's not going to be as deep," Kenworthy said.

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SPORTS BRIEFS/COLLEGE BASKETBALL/NFL

Briefly

Jones on US team

The Associated Press

Lauryn Williams and Lolo Jones have been selected for the U.S. bobsled team that will compete in next month's Sochi Olympics.

They are now positioned to join a group of eight other Americans who have competed in both the Summer and Winter Games. Williams is a three-time summer Olympian who helped the U.S. win a gold medal in the 400-meter relay at the London Games. Jones is a two-time veteran of the Summer Games in the 100-meter hurdles, missing out on gold in Beijing after a late stumble.

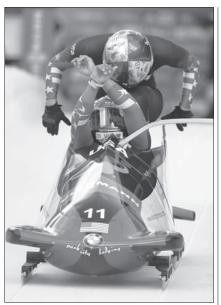
Jones, Williams and Aja Evans were the three women chosen out of a six-woman pool for the push athlete spots, that word coming at a team meeting where half the candidates saw their Olympic dreams realized and the other half saw them come to a quiet end.

"I was definitely very nervous entering the room," Jones said. "I'm usually used to looking up at a screen after I cross the finish line to see the results. You're just like anxious, armpits are sweating, don't know what's going to happen."

Jones was one hurdle away from winning gold at the Beijing Olympics, then finished fourth at the London Games. Looking for a break from the spotlight but not sports, she turned to bobsled in the fall of 2012, winning a World Cup medal in her first race and quickly announcing herself as a legit Sochi contender.

Then she recruited Williams after the 2012 400-meter relay gold medalist and former world champion sprinter retired from track.

The U.S. qualified three men's two-man sleds and two four-man sleds for Sochi. Reigning Olympic four-man champion Steven Holcomb will drive USA-1 and Nick Cunningham will be at the con-



MERSTIN JUENSSON/A

Lolo Jones, back, was named to the U.S. women's bobsled team after a transition from competing in track at two Summer Olympics.

trol of USA-2 in four-man. Cory Butner will drive the other twoman entry.

Holcomb and his crew of Curt Tomasevice, Steve Langton and Chris Fogt will be USA-1. Holcomb snapped a 62-year U.S. gold medal drought in the fourman event at the 2010 Vancouver Games, and now will try to give the U.S. its first two-man gold since 1936.

In other Olympic news:

■ Jamaican bobsled pilot Winston Watts and the nation's Olympic Committee said Monday they are accepting an invitation to compete in next month's Sochi Olympics.

Jamaican Olympic officials

said they and the Sochi Organizing Committee would cover all travel costs for the team.

Reed wins Humana Challenge

LA QUINTA, Calif. — Patrick Reed lost his putting touch for a few hours in the final round of the Humana Challenge. He found it when things were getting interesting.

After shooting three straight 9under 63s to open a seven-stroke lead, Reed had a 1-under 71 on Sunday at PGA West's Arnold Palmer Private Course to beat Ryan Palmer by two strokes.

College basketball roundup

Marble leads Iowa past Minnesota

The Associated Press

IOWA CITY, Iowa — Aaron White scored all of his 18 points in the second half and Josh Oglesby added a season-high 17 points as 14th-ranked Iowa blew past Minnesota 94-73 on Sunday.

Devyn Marble had 15 of his 16 points after halftime for the surging Hawkeyes, who moved into third place in the Big Ten behind Michigan State and Michigan.

Iowa (15-3, 4-1 Big Ten) overcame a 10-point deficit with a 29-10 run and outscored the Gophers 53-30 in the second half.

Andre Hollins had a game-high 20 points for Minnesota (14-5, 3-3). But Iowa held Hollins without a field goal in the second half in handing the Gophers their most lopsided loss of the season.

On Sunday, the Hawkeyes outscored the Gophers by 19 points in just 6½ minutes to notch its 20th straight home win — one shy of the Carver-Hawkeye Arena record.

An 11-0 run helped put Minnesota ahead 43-33 late in the first half, but Oglesby hit back-to-back threes as the Hawkeyes got the deficit down to 2 by halftime.

Marble then caught fire, scoring 14 points in the opening 8:41 of the second half to help Iowa take a 71-59 lead with 11:19 left.

Army 74, Bucknell 67: Kyle Wilson scored 28 points and host Army pulled away late.

Army (9-8, 5-1 Patriot League) rebounded from its first conference loss against Holy Cross last Wednesday, shooting 52.2 percent from the field in defeating the defending Patriot League chamions

The Black Knights finished the game on a 9-4 run over thinal 1:32. Josh Herbeck's threepointer gave Army a 68-63 lead with 57 seconds remaining, and Wilson went 6-for-6 from the line in the game's final minute to preserve the win.

Herbeck scored 18 points, shooting 6-for-6 from long range, to compliment Wilson's performance.

Big play, bigger talk for Sherman

Cornerback goes on rant about Crabtree after deflecting pass

By TIM BOOTH The Associated Press

SEATTLE — When Richard Sherman gave Michael Crabtree a pat on the backside, got shoved in the face and made a choke sign toward the San Francisco bench, he was just getting warmed up.

Get ready for two more weeks of the unfiltered Sherman with the Seattle Seahawks headed to the Super Bowl.

"I hadn't gotten many opportunities all game and I'm happy. I'm happy about that," Sherman said. "I'm sure if our team knew it was going to come down to a play like that they would be pretty confident going into it."

Sherman stole the attention on Sunday, first by deflecting a pass intended for Crabtree in the corner of the end zone with less than a minute left, right into the arms of Seattle teammate Malcolm Smith to seal the Seahawks' 23-17 win.

But then came the antics and Sherman's words that revealed a deep dislike for Crabtree and satisfaction in Seattle knocking off its division rivals to reach the Super Bowl.

While Smith was celebrating the interception, Sherman eschanged words with Crabtree, got shoved in the face as a rebuttal then made a choking gesture toward the San Francisco bench that he said was intended for quarterback Colin Kaepernick.

Asked about the incident afterward by Fox reporter Erin Andrews, Sherman lit up Twitter with a rant that began: "I'm the best corner in the game. When you try me with a sorry receiver like Crabtree, that's the result you gonna get. Don't you ever talk about me!"

Sherman didn't back down even after getting some time to collect his thoughts. He apologized to Andrews, then proceeded to call Crabtree "mediocre," making sure to annunciate each syllable of the word.

"I was making sure everybody knew Crabtree was a mediocre receiver," Sherman said. "And when you try the best corner in the game with a mediocre receiver that's what happens."

It was a fiery emotional rant from Sherman, who celebrated his first conference title by racing around the field after Russell Wilson took the final knee, then leaping into the first row of seats in the south end zone to celebrate with fans.

"I know how passionate he is about the game of football. He said to me before the game it's going to come down to us making big plays. We've got to do it. Somehow we've got to find a way to make big



ELAINE THOMPSON

The Seahawks' Richard Sherman celebrates with fans Sunday after after winning NFC Championship game.

plays," said teammate Doug Baldwin. "[Sherman] has been doing it all season. He is arguably the best cornerback in the NFL. They were trying to stay away from him the whole game. Eventually they were going to have to go his way and eventually they did and they made a mistake."

Sherman was rarely targeted by San Francisco, with most of the throws going toward Sherman's teammate Byron Maxwell. But when Kaepernick had to make a throw in the final seconds, he decided to challenge the All-Pro.

Sherman stayed with Crabtree, leaped and batted the ball into the air with his left hand. That allowed Smith to run underneath and make the interception that clinched the victory. It was San Francisco's third turnover in the fourth quarter.

"I knew if I tipped it high enough someone would get there," Sherman said.

Sherman then ran over to Crabtree and gave him a pat on the backside, then appeared to extend his arm for a handshake. Instead, Sherman got shoved in the face before picking up his personal foul as his celebration continued.

"Sherman made a good play. That's probably the only play he made all game," Crabtree said. "I ain't getting into that, he know what time it is. When we're on the field, he ain't doing nothin'. That's one play, you know what I'm saying'. ... He's a TV guy, I'm not a TV guy. I play ball."

Sherman said his issues with Crabtree go back to something that happened during the offseason. He would not go into detail about what happened.

"He said something personal face to face," Sherman said. "He knows what he said and he knows I'm going to be tough on him the rest of his career."

SUPER BOWL

Super: Manning's record-setting offense faces stiffest challenge yet

He established marks by throwing for 55 touchdowns and 5.477 yards, helping Denver lead the league with 37.9 points and 457.3 vards per game. Manning is an inescapable pitchman, too, seen Sunday after Sunday during TV commercials. Hey, there he was selling cars during breaks in the broadcast of the NFC title game. Expect even more face time now.

Manning's oft-told tale, certain to be repeated a million times in the coming days, includes his comeback from a series of surgical procedures to his neck,

Being in my 16th season, going to my third Super Bowl — I know how hard it is to get there. 7

Peyton Manning Denver Broncos quarterback

attempts to cure problems that led him to sit out the entire 2011 season. That also led the Indianapolis Colts to send him packing despite two Super Bowl appearances with that club, including a title in 2007.

"It's certainly well-documented what my journey the past 21/2 years has been," said Manning, who could become the first starting QB to lead two franchises to titles, "but this team's overcome a lot of obstacles this year.' None more serious, perhaps

than coach John Fox's absence for about a month because of a heart operation. Other issues included the fax faux pas that precipitated the departure of pass rusher Elvis Dumervil, star linebacker Von Miller's drug-testing suspension and season-ending knee injury, and the losses of a handful of other starters on defense.

"Being in my 16th season, going to my third Super Bowl - I know how hard it is to get there," Manning said

He threw for 400 vards and two touchdowns in a 26-16 victory over Tom Brady and the New England Patriots in the AFC championship game Sunday. Manning's offense scored on six consecutive possessions, accounted for more than 500 yards, had zero turnovers and zero sacks.

Ol' No. 18's opposite number in two weeks. Seattle quarterback Russell Wilson, provides a real contrast as he seeks his - and the Seahawks' - first Super Bowl

Wilson is 6 inches shorter, 12 years younger, a skilled scrambler in only his second pro season after slipping to the third round of the draft; he's a guy who had to transfer colleges to get playing time and thought about pursuing a baseball career instead.

"Any time you get to the Super Bowl," Wilson said after Seattle beat the San Francisco 49ers 23-17 on Sunday, "it's a special time." Other members of the Se-

ahawks getting the chance to introduce themselves to a wide audience include rugged running

Broncos Vice President John Elway holds up the trophy after Denver beat the New England Patriots for the AFC Championship on Sunday.

back Marshawn Lynch - fans tossed packs of his favorite candy, Skittles, onto the field after a 40yard TD run in the third quarter and Carroll, a rah-rah sort who was a title-winning college coach at Southern California.

And maybe, just maybe, some of Manning's less-heralded defensive teammates — the ones who clamped down on New England's running game Sunday and limited Brady much of the afternoon - will get their chance to shine, too. Seattle's defense, led by Sher-

man, allowed an average of 14.4 points and 273.6 yards, and topped the NFL in takeaways.

Seattle's only other trip to the big game ended with a loss to the Pittsburgh Steelers in 2006. Denver will be playing in its seventh Super Bowl and eveing a third title, to go with those from 1998 and 1999, when current executive John Elway was the QB.

In addition to Elway, Manning can match his younger brother Eli with a second Super Bowl crown. Eli, a spectator on Sunday in Denver, won two trophies with the New York Giants, whose stadi-um hosts this year's Super Bowl, the first to be played outdoors at a cold-weather site.

Follow Howard Fendrich on Twitter at http://twitter.com/HowardFendrich



Seattle quarterback Russell Wilson holds up the George Halas Trophy following the NFC Championship game against the San

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AFC CHAMPIONSHIP

Flawless Peyton leads Broncos into Super Bowl

Denver offense keeps Brady off field in win over Patriots

By EDDIE PELLS The Associated Press DENVER - Peyton Manning

stuffed the football into his helmet and handed it to an equipment man for safekeeping. The connection: Flawless, as

usual The keepsake: Certainly one

he'll want to hang on to. The Broncos quarterback had

an answer for everyone Sunday from Tom Brady to the New England defense to anyone who thought he couldn't win the big

Manning is taking the Broncos on a trip to New York for the Super Bowl after another of his impeccably crafted victories - this time, a 26-16 win over the Patriots on Sunday in the AFC title game.

"Being in my 16th season, going to my third Super Bowl, I know how hard it is to get there," Manning said.

Especially this time.

Only three years ago, he could barely grip a football as he started the long comeback from surgeries that ravaged his neck and nerve endings. And only 53 weeks ago, he suffered a devastating loss to Baltimore in the divisional playoffs that derailed what looked like a Super Bowl trip in his comeback

But Manning will get his chance for a second Super Bowl ring, after all. He'll try to become the first starting quarterback to win one with two different teams, at the Meadowlands on Feb. 2 against the Seattle Seahawks, who beat San Francisco 23-17 in the NFC title game.

"He's been remarkable," said Broncos coach John Fox, off to his second Super Bowl as a head coach. "It's unprecedented what he did."

Though Manning threw for 400 yards, it was more dink-and-dunk than a fireworks show in this the 15th installment between the NFL's two best quarterbacks of a generation. Manning set up four field goals by Matt Prater and put his stamp on this one with a pair of long, meticulous and mistakefree touchdown drives in which nothing came cheap.

He geared down the no-huddle, hurry-up offense that helped him set records for touchdown passes and vardage this season and made the Broncos the highest-

Did you know

Pevton Manning is trying to become the first starting quarterback to win the Super Bowl with two different teams.

SOURCE: The Associated Press



Denver quarterback Peyton Manning (18) completed 32 of 43 passes for 400 yards and a pair of touchdowns as the Broncos beat the New England Patriots 26-16 in the AFC championship game on Sunday in Denver. Manning was named the game's most valuable player.



Broncos running back C. J. Anderson celebrates his team's victory in the AFC Championship game against the Patriots on Sunday.

scoring team in history. The result: 93- and 80-yard touchdown drives that each lasted more than seven minutes; they were the two longest, time-wise, of the season for the Broncos (15-3).

The Broncos held the ball for 35:44. They were 7-for-13 on third-down conversions.

"To keep Tom Brady on the sideline is a good thing," Man-ning said. "That's something you try to do when you're playing the Patriots."

Manning capped the second long drive with a 3-yard pass to Demarvius Thomas, who got inside the overmatched Alfonzo

Dennard and left his feet to make the catch. It gave Denver a 20-3 lead midway through the third

From there, it was catch-up time for Brady and the Patriots (13-5), and they are not built for that - at least not this year.

"We got in a hole there," Brady said. "It was just too much to dig our way out.

A team that averaged more than 200 yards on the ground the last three games didn't have much quick-strike capability. Brady, who threw for most of his 277 vards in comeback mode, actually led the Patriots to a pair of fourth-quarter touchdowns. But they were a pair of time-consuming, 80-yard drives. The second cut the deficit to 26-16 with 3:07 left, but the Broncos stopped Shane Vereen on the 2-point conversion and the celebration was on in Denver.

"Losing is never easy," Patriots defensive lineman Rob Ninkovich said. "But when you have somebody as talented as (Manning), who puts in as much work and effort, and has done it for so long, it's a little bit easier to swallow."

Even without Von Miller on the field, John Elway put enough pieces in place around Manning to move within a game of a Super Bowl championship.

Thomas. Wes Welker (four catches, 38 yards). Eric Decker (5-73). Tight end Julius Thomas

"It's been a terrific group Elway said as he hoisted the AFC championship trophy. worked their tail off all year."

This game started getting out of hand at about the same time Patriots cornerback Aqib Talib went out with a knee injury. Nobody else could cover Thomas, and Manning, who finds mismatches even under tough circumstances,

found this one quickly.
"Talib's an excellent player," Manning said, "but Demaryius was going to be a big part of the game plan, either way."

Thomas finished with seven catches for 134 yards, including receptions of 26 and 27 yards that set up a field goal for a 13-3 lead before the half

Denver got the ball to start the third quarter and Manning hit Thomas for 15 and 4 yards as part of the 80-yard, 7:08 touchdown drive that gave Denver the 17-point lead. It was 23-3 before Brady began the comeback that came up short.

"Peyton Manning is Peyton Manning," Patriots defensive end Andre Carter said. "He's a smart player and able to make adjustments when he needs to."

Manning insisted this week's showdown against Brady was more Broncos vs. Patriots than Manning vs. Brady. But he earned a chance to improve on his already-sterling legacy - one that figures to leave him holding his fifth MVP trophy come Super Bowl week.

Scoreboard

Broncos 26, Patriots 16 w England

0 3 0 13 - 16 3 10 7 6 - 26

Denver 3 10 7 6 – 26

Pen – FG Prater 27, 3:43.

Becond Quarter
Den – Tas Second Quarter
(Prater kick), 7:50.
NE – FG Gostkowski 47, 2:54.
Den – FG Prater 35, 2:5.
Den – Thomas 3 pass from Manning
(Prater kick), 7:52.
(

Fourth Quarter

Fourth Quarter

Pen-FG Prater 19, 12:02.

NE-Edelman 7 pass from Brady (Goskowski kick), 9:26.

Den-FG Prater 54, 7:00.

NE-Brady 5 run (run failed), 3:07.

A-77,110.

First downs Total Net Yards Rushes-yards Passing Punt Returns Kickoff Returns Sacked-Yards Lost

Punts
Fumbles-Lost
Fumbles-Lost
Fumbles-Vards
Fumbles-Vard

ning 1-(minus 1).

Passing—New England, Brady 24-38-0-277. Denver, Manning 32-43-0-400.

Receiving—New England, Edelman 10-89, Vereen 5-59, Collie 4-57, Dobson 10-89, Vereen 5-59, Collie 4-57, Dobson 2-33, Hoomanawanui 2-33, Mulligan 1-6. Denver, J.Thomas 8-85, D.Thomas 7-134, Decker 5-73, Welker 4-38, Ball 3-13, Tamme 2-24, Moreno 2-22, Caldwell 1-11. MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.

NFC CHAMPIONSHIP

Legion of Boom seals it for Seattle

Defense sparks Seahawks' fourth-quarter rally with 3 turnovers to beat 49ers

By BARRY WILNER The Associated Press

SEATTLE - Richard Sherman

did a CenturyLink Leap. Golden Tate grabbed a 12th Man flag and circled the field with it.

Even team owner Paul Allen made an appearance and gave a victory speech.

The Seattle Seahawks are headed to the Big Apple for the Super

"To see all our work that we put in - the mornings, the nights, the weights, all your life, as a young player and in the NFL." Malcolm Smith said after his end zone interception with 22 seconds remaining clinched the 23-17 victory over the San Francisco 49ers on Sunday. "It's amazing."

Seattle's top-ranked "Legion of Boom" defense forced three fourth-quarter turnovers Russell Wilson threw a 35-yard touchdown pass on fourth down for the winning points. Seattle will meet Denver (15-3) for the NFL title in two weeks in the New Jersey Meadowlands. It's the first trip to the big game for the Seahawks (15-3) since they lost to Pittsburgh after the 2005 season.

Moments after Sherman tipped Colin Kaepernick's pass to Smith for the interception, the All-Pro cornerback jumped into the stands behind the end zone, saluting the Seahawks' raucous fans. With 12th Man flags waving everywhere. and "New York, New York" blaring over the loudspeakers, CenturyLink Field rocked like never

"That's as sweet as it gets," said Sherman, who also went into several rants about 49ers wideout Michael Crabtree, whom he called a 'sorry receiver.'

"This is really special," added Carroll, who has turned around the Seahawks in four seasons in charge. "It would really be a mistake to not remember the connection and the relationship between this football team and the 12th Man and these fans. It's unbelievable."

San Francisco (14-5) led 17-13 when Wilson, given a free play as Aldon Smith jumped offside, hurled the ball to Jermaine Kearse, who made a leaping catch in the end zone.

Steven Hauschka then kicked his third field goal following Kam Chancellor's pick and Smith intercepted in the end zone on the

49ers' final possession.
"This feels even sweeter, with the amazing support we have had from the 12th Man," Allen said, comparing this Super Bowl trip to the previous one.

Until Seattle's top-ranked defense forced a fumble and had two interceptions in the final period, the game was marked by big offensive plays in the second half. That was somewhat shocking considering the strength of both teams' defenses.

And those plays came rapidly. Marshawn Lynch, in full "Beast



Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman smacks the ball away from 49ers wide receiver Michael Crabtree (15) and into the hands of teammate Malcolm Smith to seal Seattle's 23-17 victory over San Francisco in the NFC Championship game on Sunday.



PAUL KITAGAKI JR., THE SACRAMENTO BEE/AP

Seattle's Robert Turbin celebrates after the NFC Championship game on Sunday. The Seahawks won 23-17 to advance to Super Mode," ran over a teammate and then outsped the 49ers to the corner of the end zone for a 40-yard

TD, making it 10-10. Kaepernick then was responsible for consecutive 22-yard gains, hitting Crabtree, then rushing to the Seattle 28. His fumble on the next play was recovered by center Jonathan Goodwin, who even lumbered for 2 yards.

Anguan Boldin outleapt All-Pro safety Earl Thomas on the next play for a 26-yard touchdown.

Then, Doug Baldwin, who played for 49ers coach Jim Harbaugh at Stanford, stepped up - and through San Francisco's coverage on a scintillating 69-yard kickoff return that made the stadium shake for the first time all day.

That set up Hauschka's 40-yard field goal. And a frantic finish.

Seattle took its first lead on Wilson's throw to Kearse with 13:44

Scoreboard

Seahawks 23, 49ers 17

San Francisco Seattle

9:51=A-Sylich or In (Nausana Kex), \$F-Boldin 26 pass from Kaepernick (Dawson kick), 6:29. Sea-FG Hauschka 40, 3:55. Sea-Kearse 35 pass from Wilson (Hauschka kick), 13:44 Sea-FG Hauschka 47, 3:37. A-68,454.

First downs Total Net Yards Rushes-yards Passing Punt Returns Punt Returns
Kickoff Returns
Interceptions Ret.
Comp-Att-Int
Sacked-Yards Lost
Punts
Fumbles-Lost
Popultion-Yards INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Ilme of "Netwinds STATISTICS Rushing-San Francisco, Keepernick 11-130, Hunfer 21-15, Gore 11-14, Dixon 2-1, 12-6, Wilson 5-1, But your 2-16, Turble Passing-San Francisco, Keepernick Receiving-San Francisco, Boldin 5-33, Crabtree 4-52, WDavis 2-16, Gore 1-Badwin 6-10, Tate 4-31, Miller 3-25, Kearee 2-44, Turbin 1-9, Missed field goals—None.

left, and CenturyLink rocked again.

The place went silent soon after when Niners All-Pro linebacker NaVorro Bowman sustained an ugly left knee injury midway and was carted off. Bowman, who was having a huge game, had forced a fumble at the San Francisco 1, but Lynch recovered.

"I never heard him yell like that, or even stay down for a moment, teammate Patrick Willis said of Bowman.

The Seahawks had gotten their first turnover moments earlier when Cliff Avril stripped Kaepernick and Michael Bennett recovered. But Lynch and Wilson botched a handoff on fourth down on the play after Bowman's injury.

It took only two plays for Chancellor to haul in Kaepernick's underthrow to Boldin, and Hauschka's 47-yarder ended the scoring.

But not the excitement.

Kaepernick, who rushed for 130 yards, got San Francisco to the Seattle 18 with his arm. But his pass for Crabtree was brilliantly tipped by Sherman to Smith.

"We knew it would come down to us in the back end to win this thing," Sherman said.

Now it's on to the Meadowlands where Carroll once coached the New York Jets for a season That didn't end well - he was fired so the team could hire Rich Kotite. He heads back with a chance to add a Super Bowl crown to two national titles as coach at Southern California.

"It's quite a magical moment," Carroll said. "You can't really grasp the moment. Did this really happen?"

SPORTS



Sharapova bounced

No. 3 seed follows No. 1 Williams out the door down under | Page 26



CHARLIE RIEDEL/AP

Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning is engulfed in confetti after the AFC Championship game in Denver on Sunday. The Broncos defeated the Patriots 26-16 to advance to the Super Bowl, where they will meet the Seattle Seahawks, who advanced after beating the San Francisco 49ers 23-17.

League's top offense, defense set to meet in New York

BY HOWARD FENDRICH
The Associated Press

Peyton Manning's Denver Broncos and Richard Sherman's Seattle Seahawks were the NFL's best all season, so it's fitting that they'll meet in the Super Bowl. Nobody scored as many points or gained as

many yards as the Broncos.

Nobody allowed as few points or gave up as

few yards as the Seahawks.

And nobody won as many games as those

clubs, either.

What a way to finish the season. When the
AFC champion Broncos (15-3) play the NFC
champion Seahawks (15-3) on Feb. 2 at what

champion Seahawks (15-3) on Feb. 2 at what could be a chilly MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J., it will be the first Super Bowl since 1991 pitting the league's highest-scoring team in the regular season against the team that was scored on the least, according to STATS.

It's also only the second time in the last 20 Super Bowls that the No. 1 seed in each conference reached

Incido

- Manning nearly flawless as Broncos keep Brady, Patriots offense off field, Page 30
- Sherman's spectacular play seals win for Seattle, Page 31

the NFL championship game.

"It will be a great matchup," Seahawks coach Pete Carroll said. "I think it's an extraordinary opportunity to go against a guy that set all the records in the history of the game."

That, of course, would be Manning, the 37year-old quarterback who is the only four-time NFL MVP — and no one would be surprised if No. 5 arrives the night before the Super Bowl.

SEE SUPER ON PAGE 29



Richard

Sherman